

STAMPTM MAGAZINE

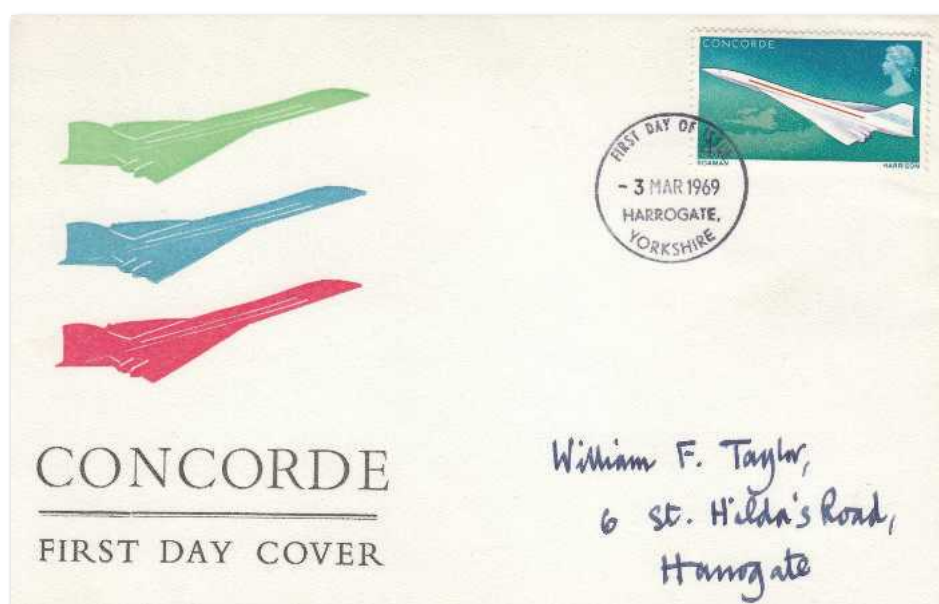


**Jubilee set
that missed
the party**



**Royal Mail's
farrago of
feline foibles**

Invisible gems



The first day covers you will struggle to find in any GB catalogue



Venomous snakes

Beauty and the beast combined in a single theme, with added bite



Identity crisis

When a definitive disguised itself as a special issue



20 - 25 June 2022

53. AUCTION

PHILATELY, BANKNOTES & COINS



In the week of **20 - 25 June 2022**, the **53rd Christoph Gärtner Auction** will take place at the company's headquarters. During the first five days of the summer auction, the range of philately will be convincing. On Saturday, 25 June 2022, banknotes and coins will go under the hammer.

SOME HIGHLIGHTS OF THE AUCTION:

- Strong offer CHINA with around 500 lots – mostly single lots
- Focus on POSTAL HISTORY, ASIA, GERMANY with GERMAN STATES, SAAR, MEMEL
- Very nice and rare single items worldwide
- Many extraordinary collections up to to a large number of untouched estates (approx. 300 estates)



VIEWING

7 - 25 JUNE 2022

Excluding 11 - 12 June and 16 June 2022.

Please make a fixed appointment!

Tel. 07142-789 400

info@auktionen-gaertner.de

ONLINE LIVE-BIDDING:

Many of the sections will also be auctioned live via the online platform **Philasearch.com** (philately). For the coins and banknotes you can bid live online as usual via **Bidder.com**. For more details check out the auction schedule on **www.cg-collectors-world.de**.

CATALOGUES AND LOTS

For ecological reasons we will send catalogues as far as possible only on order. Please order our free catalogues by phone or mail. In addition, we offer as usual the complete **PDF CATALOGS** for download on our website:

www.cg-collectors-world.com

Or you can use our **ONLINE CATALOGUE** with high-resolution previews of the lots and the option to bid easily and directly online:

www.auktionen-gaertner.de

ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS?

+49-7142-789 400 | info@auktionen-gaertner.de



Auktionenhaus Christoph Gärtner GmbH & Co. KG

Steinbeisstr. 6+8 | 74321 Bietigheim-Bissingen, Germany | Tel. +49-(0)7142-789400

Fax. +49-(0)7142-789410 | info@auktionen-gaertner.de | www.auktionen-gaertner.de

C.G.

艾華拍賣有限公司

艾華

AVA auctions

AVA AUCTIONS LIMITED

Unit 1501, 15/F, Hong Kong Trade Centre, 161-167 Des Voeux Road Central, Hong Kong.

香港首拍 • 2022年7月2-3日

JULY 2-3, 2022 HONG KONG INAUGURAL AUCTION
CHINA HONG KONG ASIA



From the Hermitage Customs Post Collection in our Inaugural Auction: Winter Route, one of several Large Dragon covers; Tamsuy Customs, Taiwan; Seoul Customs, Korea and an ever-popular Red Revenue.

Contact Danny Wong (+852 63543434) for further information or consignment;
and to receive our catalogues at info@avaauctions.com // www.avaauctions.com



高隱逸藏
The Hermitage
Collection

WELCOME

A few years ago my father passed his collection of British first day covers on to me, and it's rather splendid.

Occupying a raft of shoeboxes, it comprises around 50 years' worth of colourful and well-crafted cover designs from Royal Mail, Benham and Buckingham, neatly affixed with eye-catching commemoratives and carefully handstamped with interesting cancellations.



As a souvenir of the development of British stamp issues down the years, and fundamentally as a thing of beauty, this collection succeeds admirably. As the spectacular investment my father perhaps envisaged in the early 1960s, it fails miserably.

Of course, first day covers have existed since 1840, but as a purpose-made collectable they really took off in the 1960s. They added a new dimension to the hobby, and attracted new people to it. However, the phrase 'purpose-made collectable' comes with a built-in health warning. As today's investors in cryptocurrency stamps with non-fungible tokens will one day find out, philatelic products created for collecting, rather than for postal use, rarely achieve the golden combination of desirability and scarcity.

As this month's feature (see page 38) points out, there is scarcity in the first day covers market, but it is largely ignored. It lies not in the products of the large-scale businesslike organisations, but in covers produced in small numbers, with no marketing back-up. Sometimes this means an enthusiastic bloke with an artistic bent and a spare room.

These items are scarce, yet not sought-after. They might one day be rediscovered and appreciated, but first they need to be catalogued. Any takers?

GUY THOMAS, Editor

guy.thomas@dhp.co.uk

Stamp Magazine, David Hall Publishing Ltd, Suite 6G, Eden House, Enterprise Way, Edenbridge, Kent TN8 6HF (please mark correspondence either 'Editorial' or 'Advertising')

Art Editor

Alexandra Bourdelon

Advertisement Sales Consultant

Jay Jones

jay.jones@dhp.co.uk

Group Advertisement Manager

Rhona Bolger

rhona.bolger@dhp.co.uk

Subscriptions Executive

Beth Ashby-Nijiri

Chief Executive

Owen Davies

Printers

William Gibbons & Sons Ltd

Publishers

David Hall Publishing Ltd

Tel: 020 3855 6105 (UK)

Tel: +44 20 3855 6105 (rest of the world)

Subscriptions

David Hall Publishing Ltd, 3 Queensbridge,

The Lakes, Northampton NN4 7BF, UK

Tel: 0844 243 9023 (UK)

Tel: +1 866 647 9191 (USA & Canada)

Tel: +44 1604 828748 (rest of the world)

help@stamp.secureorder.co.uk

Current & Back Issues

Tel: 01795 662976

www.mags-uk.com

ISSN 0307-6679

USA Stamp Magazine, ISSN 0307-6679, is published monthly by David Hall Publishing Ltd, Suite 6G, Eden House, Enterprise Way, Edenbridge, Kent TN8 6HF, UK. The US annual subscription price is 108USD. Airfreight and mailing in the USA by agent named WN Shipping USA, 156-15, 146th Avenue, 2nd Floor, Jamaica, NY 11434, USA. Periodicals postage paid at Brooklyn NY 11256. US Postmaster: send address changes to Stamp Magazine, WN Shipping USA, 156-15, 146th Avenue, 2nd Floor, Jamaica, NY 11434, USA. Subscription records are maintained at DSB.net Ltd, 3 Queensbridge, The Lakes, Northampton, NN4 5DT, UK. Air Business Ltd is acting as our mailing agent.



mytime media
print & digital media publishers

IN THIS ISSUE



50 Venomous snakes don't get a good press, but do feature on interesting stamps

8 WORLD NEWS

Stampex reverts to a once-a-year event, the Europa theme is revised due to war, and Ireland enjoys a hearty breakfast

10 NEW ISSUES

The Falkland Islands marks the 40th anniversary of liberation by looking forward, not back

14 AUCTION HIGHLIGHTS

Stunning rarities from Canada, Great Britain, South Australia, Jamaica, Hawaii and more

20 GB NEW ISSUE

Our verdict on Royal Mail's new issue celebrating pet cats

22 GB COLLECTOR

Stocks of old-style definitives are running out, while reforms to mail transport are on their way in

28 LETTERS

Why 'popular culture' stamps are not really aimed at kids, and why exhibits must be labelled better



14 Unique cover sold at auction



10 Don't look back in anger



20 Cats doing what cats do



38 First day covers of the late 20th century offer unexplored potential for research



81 Why the Presidential series strayed off-piste



58 A definitive disguised as a commemorative



47 A pictorial series which was ahead of its time, but late



33 Are these stamps necessary?



23 Stamp art in the news



63 A Victorian cover sent to a war reporter in China

FEATURES

38 **FIRST DAY COVERS FROM SMALL-SCALE PRODUCERS**

Collecting modern first day covers from well-known brands is no great challenge. But 20th-century examples from forgotten producers are under-researched and not well catalogued

50 **THEMATIC GUIDE TO VENOMOUS SNAKES**

Although many of us have a phobia of snakes, they have long been a popular theme. Let's conquer our fears and focus on stamps featuring the deadly ones

'Private cover producers can seem almost invisible'

see page 38

33 **TALKING POINT**

Will the existing country definitives be replaced by data matrix issues? Or is this the end of the road?

47 **COMMONWEALTH CLASSICS**

British Guiana's pictorial issue of 1898 was ahead of its time, but still late for the Diamond Jubilee

58 **EARLY ELIZABETHANS**

Commemorating the 1957 Inter-Parliamentary Union Conference was an afterthought, and it showed

63 **VICTORIANA**

Peking was a rare destination for a Victorian cover, but in 1900 the city was unusually full of Brits

66 **WHAT'S ON**

Exhibition, auction, fair and society dates for your diary

81 **STRANGE BUT TRUE**

One US stamp to honour each former President, in chronological order? It sounds simple, but...

COMPETITIONS

Win a Migratory Birds presentation pack!

Or a copy of our GB price guide!

See page 35



'Now is a good time to ask whether country definitive stamps are still relevant'

see page 33

SUBSCRIBE

Take advantage of our special subscription offer and have *Stamp Magazine* delivered to your door. See page 64



CORINPHILA – YOUR CO WILL BE IN THE BEST CO

Just a few items from our forthcoming auction



ex Sir John Dodd (1962)

3rd state 1868 repair



ex Dublin Find (1899)
ex Earl of Crawford (1912)

ex Dr. Ambrose (1994)



To Madagascar!
Only two „Penny Pinks“ known



ex Tito Giampocarò (1996)

CORINPHILA AUCTIONS – A TRADITION OF SUCCESS

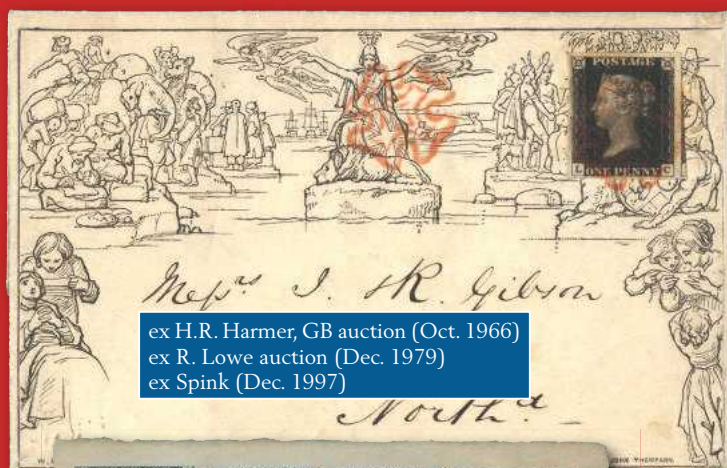
As the oldest stamp auction house in Switzerland, situated in the international financial centre of Zürich, we at Corinphila Auctions really know the market.

The most specialised philatelic knowledge, fastidious presentation and an international customer base with strong purchasing power guarantee the highest prices.

CONSIGNMENT COMPANY



www.corinphila.ch



ex H.R. Harmer, GB auction (Oct. 1966)
ex R. Lowe auction (Dec. 1979)
ex Spink (Dec. 1997)



from the famous 'John
Coulston Esq., Lancaster'
correspondence find (1986)
ex Hassan Shaida (1992)



ex Dublin Find (1899)



ex E. F. Zenker collection (1989)
ex TES collection (1995)



ex Mercurphila Auction (1984)
ex Christies (1990)

CONSIGN NOW !

Next Corinphila Auction:

28 November – 3 December 2022

Separate 'hard bound' Auction Catalogues for
'one country' or 'single owner' a specialty

We are quite willing to discuss larger holdings in
your own home.

Latest date for consignments: 5 September 2022



CORINPHILA AUKTIONEN AG
WIESENSTR 8 · 8032 ZÜRICH · SWITZERLAND
Phone +41-44-3899191
www.corinphila.ch



CORINPHILA VEILINGEN BV
AMSTELVEEN · NETHERLANDS
Phone +31-20-6249740 · www.corinphila.nl

Stampex reverts to a once-a-year event



After more than three decades as a twice-yearly show, Stampex has reverted to being an annual event, as first predicted by *Stamp Magazine* in 2019.

Britain's biggest stamp fair, which has been held in both spring and autumn since 1987, will stage its sole 'actual' event in autumn every year, although an additional Virtual Stampex will be held once again in 2023, and looks likely to become an annual fixture.

The organisers, the Philatelic Traders' Society, were considering a proposal to run just one Stampex a year three years ago (March 2019 issue, page 8), even before the coronavirus pandemic forced the cancellation of three of the four shows planned for 2020-21.

With the spring of this year left clear for the London 2022 international exhibition, in reality there have not been two Stampexes

in the same year since 2019.

'I can confirm that we have made the bold move to make Stampex an annual event,' says Suzanne Rae, Managing Director of the PTS. 'This world-class, once-a-year show will be held in the autumn, and will continue to take place at the Business Design Centre in London.'

Stampex 2022 will be open from September 28 to October 1. Early-bird tickets are now available for the opening day, priced £10, while admission is free on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Following a new look and feel introduced for autumn last year, including an auditorium for expert talks, a collectors' lounge, a digital zone and a youth zone, more new attractions are promised to help you make the most of your time.

For further details of the event, visit www.stampexinternational.co.uk

BACK STORY

- The National Stamp Exhibition was renamed Stampex in 1956.
- Stampex was traditionally held in spring, at Central Hall in Westminster until 1969, and at the Royal Horticultural Halls in Westminster from 1970.
- The annual British Philatelic Exhibition was taken over by Stampex in 1987, and billed as Autumn Stampex.
- Since 1996, both Spring Stampex and Autumn Stampex have been hosted by the Business Design Centre in Islington.
- The first Virtual Stampex was held online in the autumn of 2020, after the pandemic forced the cancellation of in-person events.



STAMPEX
INTERNATIONAL

Lavish printing for Jersey's Jubilee £10

Jersey has issued a single £10 stamp to mark the Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II.

Reproducing a photographic portrait of the Queen taken by Dorothy Wilding in 1952, the year of her accession, it features several special ink effects to reflect the occasion.

The printers, Cartor, used offset lithography plus platinum suprametal, silver hot foil, spot gloss ultraviolet varnish and iridescent ink.



South Georgia issue recalls 1982 liberation



A miniature sheet from South Georgia & The South Sandwich Islands commemorates the 40th anniversary of the liberation of British overseas territory during the Falklands War.

Argentinian military forces invaded the islands on April 3, 1982, but British forces supported by the destroyer HMS *Antrim* and the frigate HMS *Plymouth* retook control on April 25-26.

The miniature sheet with its single £4 stamp has a colourised image of Royal Navy officers raising the Union flag and the White Ensign once again.

Hearty breakfast on Ireland's agenda

Ireland has released a set of stamps celebrating breakfast, sometimes called 'the most important meal of the day'.

It features colourful illustrations of a fresh fruit smoothie with oats, a bowl of porridge with fruit and honey, a continental breakfast with Irish soda bread and jam, and the traditional 'full Irish' with fried egg, bacon and sausage.

Supporting 'Ireland's reputation for offering delicious food and a warm welcome', two of the stamps are for the national letter rate and two for the worldwide rate.



Europa theme is changed to Peace for 2023...

PostEurop has changed the Europa theme for 2023 to Peace, 'to show solidarity with Ukraine and to promote the universal value for all humanity'.

A common motif for the stamps will be selected by means of a design competition, an approach last used in 2016.

The originally planned theme of Underwater Fauna & Flora has been postponed to 2024, and the following theme of National Archaeological Discoveries to 2025.

PostEurop, which represents 55 postal operators in 53 countries, including some outside the continent, describes Europa stamps as 'a symbol of Europe's desire for closer integration and cooperation'.

...as Russia is excluded from the 2022 vote

Russia and its ally Belarus have been excluded from the voting for the Most Beautiful Europa Stamp of 2022 competition, following the invasion of Ukraine by Russia in February.

Philatelists can cast a vote for any other stamp issued on this year's theme, Stories & Myths, until September 9. Visit www.posteurop.org

Isle of Man stamp on stamp

Isle of Man's issue marking the centenary of the Manx Museum in Douglas includes a stamp-on-stamp design.

A 73p value illustrates the 2½d carmine of 1964, one of the regional definitives made available by the British Post Office from 1958-73, before the island was granted postal autonomy.

Other designs in the set include a medieval coin, the oldest surviving Manx car and a stuffed pygmy shrew!



NEWS IN BRIEF

➤ Guernsey's Post & Go stamps with the Guernsey Flag design are being vended with a special 'The Queen's Platinum Jubilee' overprint from June 3 until July 1.

➤ North Korea released a set of 49 stamps marking the 10th anniversary of Kim Jong-un's accession to power. They included photographs of his meetings with Donald Trump and Vladimir Putin, and of the test-firing of intercontinental ballistic missiles.

➤ ABPS Awards of Merit will be presented to Frank Dickens and John Poulson, who have, between them, given over 100 years of service to Matlock Philatelic Society.

➤ The West Africa Study Circle has published *British West Africa & The French Air Mail Services to June 1940*, an 82-page book based on a series in its journal by Barbara Priddy, priced £16 plus £2 p&p in the UK. E-mail: robert.may@cantab.net

➤ Argentina marked the 40th anniversary of the Falklands War by issuing a single £100 stamp on April 4 showing a map of the Falkland Islands, inscribed 'Malvinas nos une' (The Falklands unites us).

➤ Stamp Magazine's website has been revamped, with a bolder style and bigger images. It continues to be the first stop for details of GB new issues, and for subscriptions and competitions, although the forums are discontinued.

The Falkland Islands looking to the future



The Falkland Islands is marking the 40th anniversary of its liberation at the end of the Falklands War with a set entitled Looking Forward At 40.

The anniversary is presented as an opportunity to reflect not on the conflict itself but on the progress that has been made since.

A 33p stamp features a colourful '40' logo which incorporates the Union flag and an optimistic scene including children, penguins, sheep, sunshine, a seashore, a church tower, a statue and a windfarm.

The other designs, based on photographs, focus on three important aspects of the economy which are thriving and being sustainably developed, securing the islands' self-sufficiency.

The 80p value features fishing, celebrating the fisheries conservation zone and management regime introduced in 1986 to ensure the long-term sustainability of resources for future generations.

This includes not only looking after the

commercial target species, but also reducing harm to 'by-catch' species such as seabirds and marine mammals.

The stamp shows CFL *Hunter*, a longliner launched in 2017, which was the first Falklands-registered fishing vessel to be funded solely by local capital.

The £1.07 value switches the attention to tourism, noting how the Falklands has become one of the last great wilderness destinations.

Many cruise ships now include the islands in their austral summer itineraries, as part of a wider South American or Antarctic adventure, while hotels and guesthouses are prospering as never before.

Visitors can explore remote areas by means of light-aircraft and four-wheel-drive vehicles, with penguin and albatross safaris always popular.

The £1.30 value focuses on agriculture, as much of the landmass is dominated by sheep farming, producing more than 1,600,000kg of wool per year.

The remote environment has a reputation for yielding exceptionally clean wool, and a number of farms have organic certification. A voluntary farm assurance programme assures buyers and consumers that Falklands wool is produced in accordance with international guidelines that address animal welfare and land management.

There is also an EU-approved abattoir on the islands, preparing mutton and lamb for export markets, as well as lamb and beef for local consumption.

Argentinian forces invaded the islands on April 2, 1982, but were brought to surrender on June 14 by a British task force. A total of 255 British servicemen, 649 Argentinian servicemen and three civilians lost their lives during the conflict.

A number of events are being held both in the Falklands and in the UK, to mark the anniversary and to celebrate achievements seen in the four decades since.

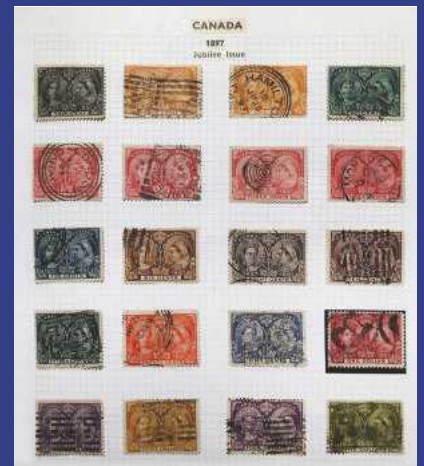
The stamps will be issued on June 14, Liberation Day, which is a national holiday.

BAINBRIDGES DGES *of* RUISLIP

AUCTIONEERS, VALUERS & HOUSE CLEARANCE SPECIALISTS

Of great importance, a single-owner collection of world stamps in 200 albums, well curated over decades, including high values, with a particular strength in Commonwealth countries.

To be sold as part of a public auction on June 30th and July 1st 2022.



Register to bid online with www.ukauctioneers.com or www.thesaleroom.com
Viewing: Wednesday 29th June, 1 pm - 7 pm, or by appointment week of 27th June.
(The stamp catalogue will be on our website during early June.)

The Auction Room • Station Parade • Ickenham Road • West Ruislip HA4 7DL
e: enquiries@bainbridgesauctions.com • t: 01895 621 991 • www.bainbridgesauctions.com



Great Britain
1839-1951



Fine stamps and postal history
of Great Britain

Visit us at York Stamp Fair **Stand 37**

Andrew G Lajer Ltd

The Old Post Office, Davis Way,
Hurst, Berkshire, RG10 0TR

T: 01189 344151 / sales@andrewglajer.co.uk

www.andrewglajer.co.uk



YES, WE WOULD LIKE TO BUY YOUR STAMPS!

BNA Classics



Newfoundland



Admirals



Airmails



Proofs/Essays



Errors



Worldwide



British Commonwealth



We are actively buying Worldwide and British Commonwealth stamps, collections, dealer stocks, complete estates, etc. When you are ready, please call or email us to discuss your holdings.

We also publish a regular Price List every six weeks covering all of Canada from early Classics, Proofs/Essays to Modern material. Reserve your copy today.



Gary J. Lyon (Philatelist) Ltd.

P.O. Box 450 - Bathurst - New Brunswick - E2A 3Z4 - Canada

Tel: 1(506) 546-6363 - Fax 1(506) 546-6627

Email: glstamps@garylyon.com - Website: www.garylyon.com

Toll Free in
North America
1-800-667-8267

Sometimes Collectors Get a Raw Deal, don't they ?

The problem with most stamp auctions is not what they sell, but how they sell it...

- 1.▶ Imagine, you drive into a Petrol Station, with fuel at 150p per litre it is expensive, so you limit your fuel purchase by putting £50 worth fuel into your tank. Then you go in to pay, and the cashier asks you for £65 ... how can that be? Yes, **£15 (30%) more.** You are infuriated, £65 for £50 worth of fuel! No chance ... you would rather empty your tank first, than pay such an iniquitous premium.
- 2.▶ That's the reason why in 2017 European Auction Selling Legislation introduced – required auctions that charge 'buyer's premiums' **to warn the buyer in advance.** Of course, we are no longer in the EU, but that has not stopped Buyer's Premiums and other charges lifting the hammer cost of your stamps, by as much as a further 30% above the 'hammer' price that the stamps were actually sold to you at.
- 3.▶ You really don't need to imagine – because this is still what happens in most stamp auctions. Further, there is no distinction between when you are buying stamps that are actually owned by that auction, and when you are buying stamps that are being sold on behalf of a vendor. Is this fair?
- 4.▶ That is why Universal Philatelic Auctions (UPA) steadfastly refuses to charge any buyer's premium or other charges, because at UPA collectors are treated like the Very Important Philatelists (VIPs) that they are.
- 5.▶ If you feel the same as we do about extra levies upon our philatelic pastime, you may wish to learn a little more about UPA. Each quarter UPA offers a 20,000+/- lot auction catalogue with NO extra buyer's premiums or hidden charges, lightweight auction lots delivered insured and loyalty post-free. Furthermore, ALL lots won are Guaranteed, which may account for why more than 2,000 different collectors from 54 different countries regularly bid in their auctions.
- 6.▶ If you would like a complimentary catalogue of their next auction, plus your 1st £55 auction winnings free when you win £75+, please visit: upastampauctions.co.uk **and ...**

7.▶ Determine how You wish to be treated Here ...

PHILATELIC ROUTE-FINDER

VISIT

upastampauctions.co.uk

or if you prefer, telephone: 01451 861111

**UPA
VIP**

**Putting Collectors
Like You First**

UNIVERSAL PHILATELIC AUCTIONS

4 The Old Coalyard, West End, Northleach, Glos. GL54 3HE-UK

AUCTION HIGHLIGHTS

CANADA 1927 Unique London-to-London airmail cover

The biggest realisation at Cherrystone's auction on May 3-4 was for the only surviving cover from a tragic pioneering airmail flight from Canada in 1927.

This is the only cover which was postmarked for the planned transatlantic flight from London, Canada, to London, England, but not actually put in the mailbag.

Addressed to the Controller of the London Postal Service, the OHMS envelope is franked with a 60th Anniversary of Confederation 3c commemorative and with the special semi-official 25c green and yellow label which was authorised by the postal authorities for mail carried on the flight.

Both are tied by the special three-line boxed handstamp, with a London Canada circular datestamp of August 29 alongside and a faint oval datestamp at left.

Inspired by the \$25,000 prize offered by Carling Breweries for the first London-to-London transatlantic flight, pilot Terrence Tully and navigator James Medcalf attempted the crossing in a Stinson-Detroiter SM-1 monoplane named *Sir John Carling*. After a scheduled stop at Harbour Grace in Newfoundland, they set off across the ocean on September 7, never to be seen again.

Only 100 labels were printed, featuring portraits of the two aviators and an illustration of their aircraft, and it is thought that 87 of them were affixed to covers which were lost at sea. Mint examples survive, but this is the only one used on cover.

The cover's condition was described as fine, although roughly opened, with some obvious toning around the address. The boxed handstamp and circular datestamp are both repeated on the reverse.

SOLD BY CHERRYSTONE £52,770



HAWAII 1851-52 Unused 5c blue

The Gary Munson collection of Hawaii, sold by Schuyler Rumsey on April 23, included one of the finest unused 'Missionary' stamps in private hands.

The 1851-52 5c blue, type 1, had full to large margins on all sides and minor faults, including a sealed tear at lower right.

It is considered one of the finest of the 10 unused 5c stamps which could come onto the philatelic market.

So-called because many of their users were American missionaries to the Kingdom of Hawaii, the 'Missionaries' were printed on a newspaper press in Honolulu.

There were three denominations, to meet the Second Treaty Period postage rates: 2c for newspapers to the US, 5c for Hawaiian postage, and 13c for letters to the US east coast. Of all three values, only 28 unused stamps survive in total.

SOLD BY SCHUYLER RUMSEY £48,631



GREAT BRITAIN 1867 10d watermark error

The star turn at Grosvenor's auction on April 20-21 was a rarity of Great Britain's surface-printing era during the reign of Queen Victoria.

The 10d red-brown was intended to be printed only on paper with the Spray of Rose watermark, but a small number, produced by De La Rue from plate 1 in November 1867, have the Emblems watermark in error.

Only 14 examples are known, and nine of them were used at the British post office in Constantinople in the Ottoman Empire. This was one of them, featuring the telltale 'C' barred-oval cancellation.

It was slightly rubbed, but otherwise a fine example of an extremely rare stamp.

SOLD BY GROSVENOR £31,000

UNITED STATES 1851 10c multiple with variety

Schuyler Rumsey's auction at the Westpex exhibition in California in April offered one of the greatest rarities from the second stamp issue of the United States in 1851.

The horizontal strip of five of the 10c green (type 1), from positions 96-100 in the pane, is the largest recorded multiple of the type, and the right-most impression shows the double-transfer variety.

The imperforate stamps have ample to large margins at top and bottom, slightly pinched at the sides, and rich colour. They have no gum, having been affixed inside a letter in 1857 (in a failed attempt to pay a subscription to a publisher) rather than used on cover.

SOLD BY SCHUYLER RUMSEY £24,365



JAMAICA 1919-21 1s with inverted frame

An obvious highlight of Spink's sale of the Libra collection of King George V on April 20 was an outstanding example of one of the rarest and most famous stamps of Jamaica.

This was the 1s orange-yellow and red-orange from the 1919-21 pictorial issue, illustrating the statue of Queen Victoria in Kingston, with its frame inverted.

Only 10 mint and 10 used examples of this famous error are thought to survive, all from a half-sheet of 30 which were sold over the counter at the small village post office at Manchioneal.

This one was in fine used condition, with good centring and a neat Manchioneal datestamp of December 24, 1921.

It came with RPSL and BPA certificates of 1971 and 2011 respectively.



SOLD BY SPINK £11,000

SOUTH AUSTRALIA 1873 Vaccination Board 4d official

The sale of the Don Pearce collection of South Australia departmental (official) stamps by Abacus on April 26 included what the auctioneers described as 'the Holy Grail' for collectors in this field.

The 4d deep purple with the Vaccination Board's 'VN' overprint is one of only four recorded examples.

One of these has not been seen since 1965, another has unknown whereabouts and a third is badly defective, so this is the best copy likely to come on the market.

It is well centred, with an irregular compound perforation of 11½-12½ x 11½-12½ x 10 x 11½-12½, and a light circular datestamp of September 28, 1873.

There are recorded examples perforated 10 x 10, but they are considered to be of doubtful authenticity.

SOLD BY ABACUS £16,511



CANADA 1857 7½d yellow-green

The sale of the Robert J Barish collection of Canada by Doyle in New York on May 5 offered many fine stamps, and the prospect of some great bargains.

The 1857 7½d yellow-green, a late addition to the 1852-57 series specifically to meet the Canadian packet rate to England, is catalogued by Stanley Gibbons at £15,000 unused. This example, however, was snapped up for the equivalent of just £1,149, albeit with a hefty 26% buyer's premium to add. Printed on hand-made wove paper, its condition was described as 'choice', with four margins, dark brown gum and a couple of hinge remnants.

The stamp was inscribed with an alternative denomination (6d sterling), because the colony of Canada was preparing to switch to decimal currency, based on the US dollar.

SOLD BY DOYLE £1,149



Purves Philatelics



For all your British Commonwealth
philatelic requirements (1840-2000)

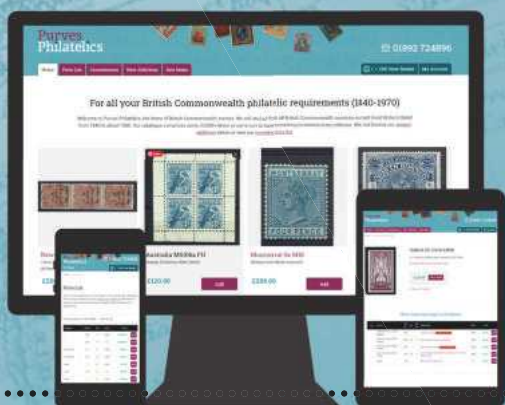
Always searching for the best from around the world

We spend our time and energy delivering our core
values exceptionally well. These include:

- ✓ Customer service
- ✓ Excellent quality
- ✓ Competitive prices
- ✓ No quibble refund guarantee
- ✓ Prompt despatch - same day where possible

Visit our intuitive website will help you find whatever
you need quickly and easily.

- ✓ Fantastic functionality, performance and searching
- ✓ Works on any device for when you're 'on-the-go'
- ✓ Create a 'Wants List' and let us do the legwork
- ✓ Clear detailed stock images



www.purvesphilatelics.co.uk

Alternatively you can request our
FREE monthly catalogue today and
get access to one of the best stocks of
British Commonwealth stamps in the world.



A SUMMER EXTRAVAGANZA



We have a huge range of stock from all Commonwealth countries priced between a few £'s and £250 in addition to our Connoisseurs range priced from £250 upwards. Unlike many other dealers our stock is constantly changing.

Here's just a small selection of our current stock and discounts available in our **Summer Extravaganza!**
Up to 25% off all existing stock!



SG F216 UMM
£325.00
£292.50



SG 111 MM
£140.00
£119.00



SG 27aw FU
£135.00
£114.75



SG 92/92b LMM
£185.00
£157.25



SG 13 MM
£100.00
£85.00



SG 24D VLMM
£400.00
£360.00



SG 56a UMM
£1000.00
£900.00



SG 87/91 LMM
£108.00
£91.80



SG 11ab FU
£275.00
£247.50

purvesphilatelics.co.uk
info@purvesphilatelics.co.uk
☎ 01892 724896

Purves Philatelics, PO Box 95, Tonbridge, Kent TN12 7PX, UK

All major credit and debit cards accepted. **VISA** **MasterCard** **Maestro**

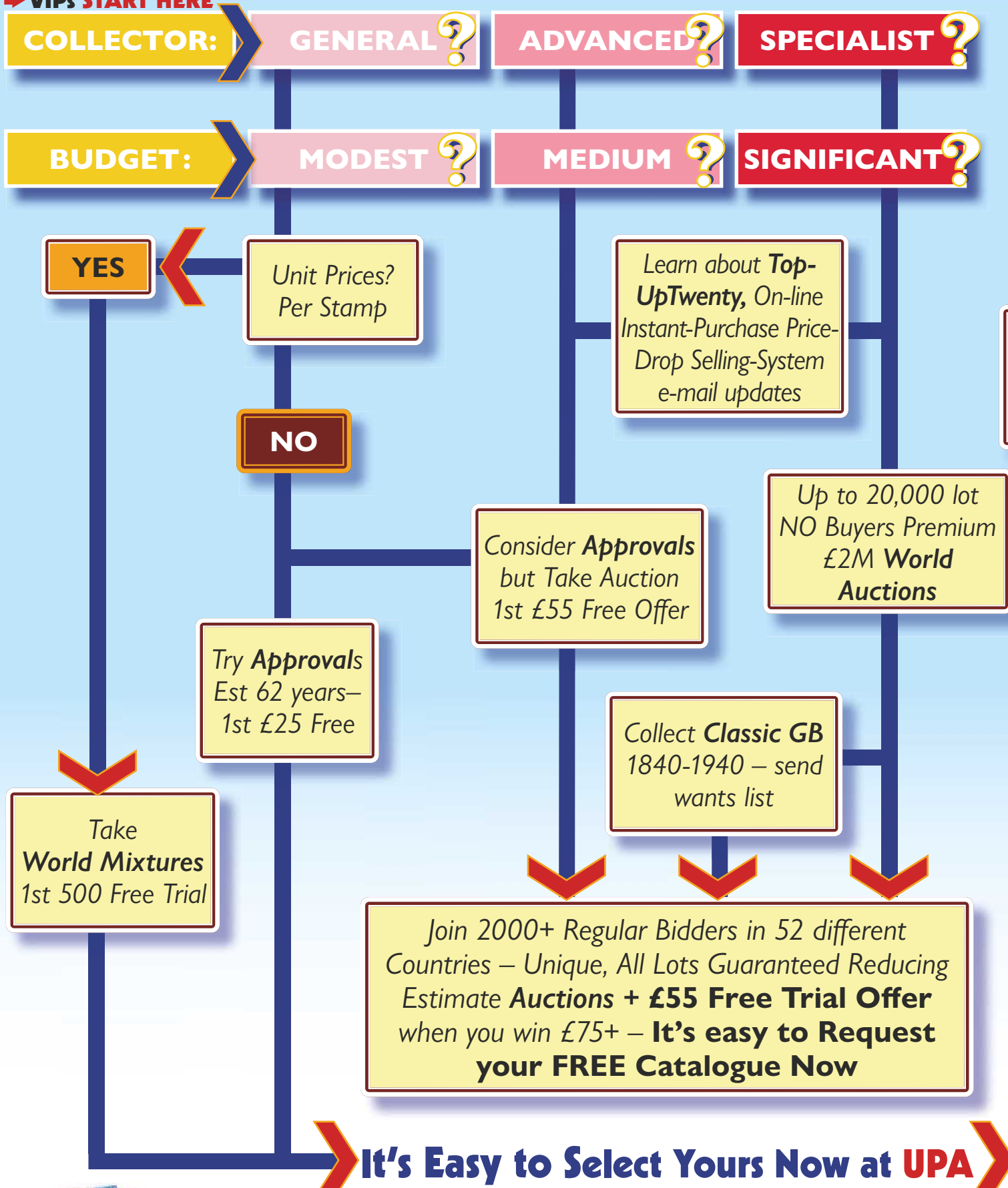


SG 10/10a UMM
£375.00
£337.50

Don't think You're Treated like a VIP?

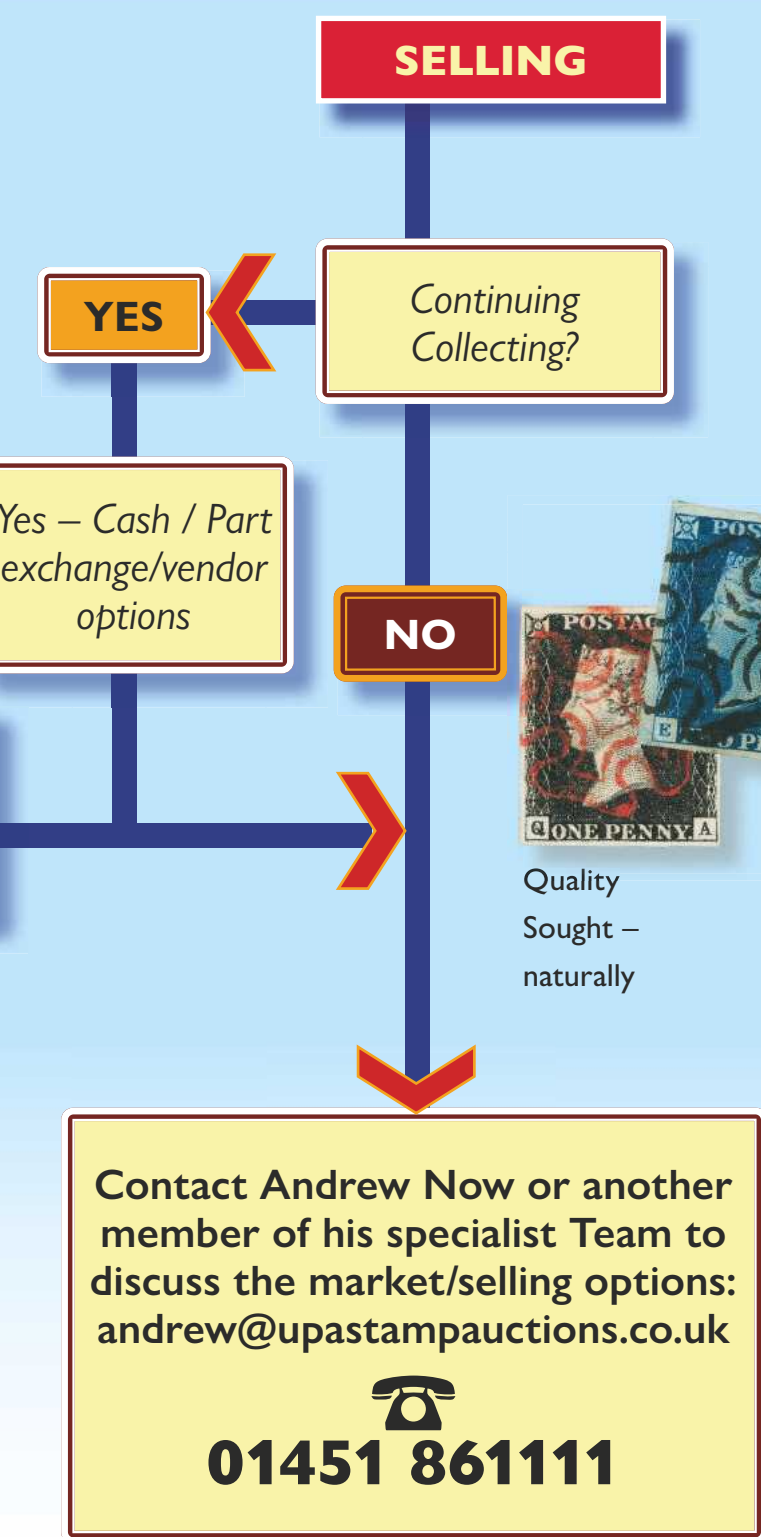
Try Philatelic Route-Finder NOW!

VIPs START HERE



Sometimes Collectors Get a Raw Deal

Determine how You wish to be treated Here ...



‘money spent in the wrong way soon mounts up ...’

Successful and enjoyable collecting depends upon understanding the relationship of your budget to your interest.

Offers and services can be confusing can't they, and money spent in the wrong way soon mounts up.

In philately, sometimes it is hard to decide which way to go. Your passion may exceed your resource, so just what may be best for you?

Often, it is not what you collect but how you collect

This is the reason why my team and I have devised this quick and easy philatelic route-map QUIZ which does not ask you what you collect – but helps you to determine by your answers just which type of collecting service may best suit you ...

Presently you may find few philatelic companies other than UPA which can offer you integrated philatelic selling systems, but obviously once you determine which philatelic services best suit your collecting interest – you may have a clearer idea of which way is best to go – depending upon your levels of specialism and philatelic budget, of course

Check out our Philatelic QUIZ right now and see for yourself. To select your choice, visit our website or call my team

Dedicated to De-mystifying Philately



Andrew McGavin,
Veteran Philatelic Auctioneer
Philatelic Expert & Author
Managing Director Universal Philatelic Auctions (UPA)

Visit: www.UPAstampauctions.co.uk

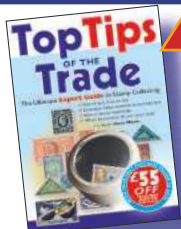
Fax: 01451 861297 ~ info@upastampauctions.co.uk ~ T: 01451 861111

Participate in this Philatelic Route-Map to Enjoyable Collecting.

Find UPA also on-line at www.top-uptwenty.co.uk

New Instant-Purchase Price-Drop Selling-System

SM 07/22



Felines striking poses, just fur the sake of it



A set of eight stamps on the theme of Cats is being issued by Royal Mail on June 9.

The designs show feline pets of various breeds doing what they do best, including being curious, playing, grooming themselves and, of course, sleeping.

The African wildcat was first domesticated around 10,000 years ago, in the Middle East. This coincided with the establishment of settlements and the development of farming, and therefore the growing problem of attracting rats.

The expansion of maritime trade encouraged the spread of cats, as they were carried on grain ships to keep mice at bay. This in turn enabled their natural mutation into distinct breeds in different regions.

In parts of the Far East cats were revered as magical beings, but in the medieval Christian world they were associated with

paganism and witchcraft. The persecution of cats may have contributed to the prevalence of rat-borne plagues such as the Black Death.

Their reputation was restored by the 19th century, when they became favoured as domestic pets. Britain had a cat show at Crystal Palace from 1871, and a National Cat Club from 1887.

Whilst cat fanciers drew up breed standards and kept pedigree records, the vast majority of domestic cats are 'moggies', of no particular breed.

The stamps were designed by Studio Up, from photographs, and printed in litho by International Security Printers (Cartor). They come in vertically se-tenant pairs.

2nd class SIAMESE CAT GROOMING

The Siamese is an ancient oriental breed with a graceful appearance and almond-

shaped eyes, known for being sociable.

2nd class TABBY CAT STALKING

'Tabby' is not a breed, but a description of the natural pattern of dark and pale bands of colour inherited from the African wildcat.

1st class GINGER CAT PLAYING

Ginger cats are a variety of tabby cats, with a distinct colouration that comes in various shades of orange, red and gold.

1st class BRITISH SHORTHAIR SLEEPING

The British shorthair breed is noted for its dense, short fur, which comes in many different colours and patterns, and for being affectionate and undemanding.

£1.85 MAINE COON STARING

Tracing its ancestry from the cats which travelled from Europe to the New World



£1.85 BLACK-AND-WHITE CAT ON ALERT

Cats of various breeds have black-and-white colouring, and sometimes this has a 'tuxedo' pattern.

£2.55 BENGAL BEING CURIOUS

A modern breed developed by crossing the domestic cat with the wild Asian leopard cat, the Bengal has a spotted or marbled coat.

£2.55 TABBY-AND-WHITE STRETCHING

Some tabby coats have a significant amount of white fur, usually on the paws, belly, chest, throat and face.



aboard ships from the 1620s onwards, the Maine coon has luxurious medium-length fur and a long tail.

PRICES

Set of 8 stamps	£12.06
Presentation pack	£12.96
Stamp cards	£3.60
First day cover	£15.15
Collector's sheet	£15.20

ADDITIONAL PRODUCTS

The presentation pack includes a guide to the different breeds, a history of the relationship between humans and cats, and advice on how to read a cat's body language, especially its tail.

A first day cover and stamp cards are available as usual.

There is also a collector's sheet of 10 stamps (two 2nd class, four 1st class, two £1.85 and two £2.55), accompanied by 10 pictorial labels. From this source, the stamps are self-adhesive rather than conventionally gummed.

VERDICT

COMMEMORATIVE WORTH ★★★★★

Notwithstanding the popularity of cats in Britain, this seems a pointless issue

QUALITY OF DESIGN ★★★★★

The images are photographic, albeit well shot and well presented

WOW FACTOR ★★★★★

Cute animals will always appeal to some, but this set will not be memorable

Royal Mail winding down philatelic stocks of old-style definitives

Royal Mail's updated Stock List of stamps and philatelic products, dated Spring 2022, gave May 28 as the last day on which old-style Machin definitives (without data matrix codes) from counter sheets would be on sale to collectors.

Realistically, those seeking sheets or cylinder blocks now have to obtain them from dealers, although it is possible that they might still be available from post offices.

Most retail stamp books with these stamps were not listed at all, and are presumed to have been sold out by the philatelic service, although again they might still be available from post offices.

Booklets containing a combination of old-style definitives and commemorative designs, including prestige stamp books, remain available 'while stocks last'.

The same is true of country definitives, although there has still been no confirmation as to whether these will be reissued with digital coding or discontinued.

Definitives without data matrix codes will be invalid for postage beyond January 2023. All Machins issued since decimalisation in 1971 are eligible for Royal Mail's Swap Out scheme, which allows customers, collectors and dealers to exchange them for data matrix stamps of equivalent value (June issue, page 25).



No distinct source code for Machins in prestige booklet

The Machin definitives in the *Unsung Heroes: Women of World War II* prestige stamp book, issued on May 5 (June issue, page 24), have the same source code in their security overlay as the counter sheet stamps which were issued on April 4.

The source code in each case is the default 'MAIL', whereas under the protocol used for the past decade it would have been expected to be 'MPIL', to designate a prestige booklet.

The backing paper is also the same, and in the same orientation, although the booklet pane, unlike a counter sheet, has no roulettes between the stamps. The year code is a uniform 'M22L', as would be anticipated.

The pane features three £1 and two 50p self-adhesive Machins, these being the first stamps with data matrix codes to appear in a prestige booklet.



Obituary: Robert Gillmor

Renowned bird artist and stamp designer Robert Gillmor has died at the age of 86.

Gillmor was best known for illustrating the first eight series of Post & Go pictorial stamps in 2010-12, as well as the Winter Fur & Feathers set of 2015. He described his lino-cut methods in a book, *Birds, Blocks & Stamps: Post & Go Birds of Britain*.

He also designed stamps for the Seychelles in 1972, carriage labels for the Summer Isles, and the RSPB's avocet logo.



Railways to transport more mail again...

The amount of mail carried around Britain by rail could treble, as Royal Mail plans to use more trains in place of lorries and aircraft.

The policy is thought to be heavily linked with the increasing importance of parcels (as distinct from letters) to the company's revenues. Royal Mail's biggest parcels sorting hub to date will be part of a new rail freight terminal in Daventry, Northamptonshire.

Less than 5% of the nation's mail is currently transported via the railway network, a small fraction of what was carried in the second half of the 19th century and the first half of the 20th century.

A return to the days of the travelling post offices, which operated from 1838 until 2004, is not expected. Rail carriages will not be staffed or used for sorting.

The Non-Executive Chairman of Royal Mail, Keith Williams, was also the independent chairman of the Government's Rail Review which reported its findings in 2021.

...while drones will serve remote islands

Royal Mail is planning a fleet of 500 drones to transport mail by air to remote communities, following trials over recent years.

Unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) could be used on as many as 50 different routes within three years. Early beneficiaries are likely to include the Shetland Islands, the Orkney Islands, the Outer Hebrides and the Isles of Scilly.

Drone manufacturer Windracers will supply a fleet of twin-engined craft with a wingspan of 30ft, a range of 600 miles and a payload of 100kg. Transporting mail in this way would be less weather-dependent than using manned aircraft or ferries.

The UAVs would be capable of landing on fields, where their cargo would be unloaded for door-to-door delivery by postal workers.

The plans require approval from the Civil Aviation Authority.



Diana stamp photo at auction

A photograph reproduced on one of the stamps in the 1998 Princess Diana memorial issue was offered at a Bonhams auction in March with an estimate of £10,000-£15,000.

The image of Diana in a purple crushed-velvet ball gown, by photographer Terence Donovan, was used for one of the five 26p values although it was known to have been disliked by her.

Signed by the Princess herself and dated 1986, the photograph went unsold.



Machin portrait at flower show

To celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II, the Chelsea Flower Show had an exhibit based on the Machin portrait.

Created by florist Simon Lycett, it featured 70 terracotta pots of lily of the valley (said to be the monarch's favourite bloom) in a frame of purple-painted steel, and a smaller silhouette made from green foliage including oak and hornbeam.



NEWS IN BRIEF

➤ Stanley Gibbons has a special Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Exhibition at its London shop at 399 Strand, which is on display until June 25 and free to visit.

➤ More than 100 crown post offices remained closed on May 3, as Post Office employees staged a one-day strike over pay. After a pay freeze in 2021-22, they were offered a 2% increase for 2022-23.

➤ The slogan postmark promoting the Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal, introduced in March and retained in use during April, was further extended into May.

➤ Other slogans reported in May noted Mental Health Awareness Week, from May 9-15, International Nurses Day on May 12, Dementia Action Week from May 16-22 and Find Every Child Week from May 23-30. Slogans honouring the young designers of the Heroes of the Pandemic stamps, issued in March, appear to have been delayed indefinitely.

➤ During the 12 months to April, less than 82% of 1st class mail was delivered on the next working day. This was an improvement on the previous year, but well below the target of 93%.

➤ Candidates in the local elections in the Portsmouth area inadvertently sent out campaign pamphlets using forged stamps, purchased online through Amazon. Up to 200 members of the public had to pay £2.50 postage due to receive the unsolicited mail.



YORK Racecourse

Stamp & Coin Fair

The Grandstand YORK Racecourse

The Racecourse - YORK - YO23 1EX

70+ stamp dealers and 50+ coin, banknote and medal dealers

15th - 16th July 2022

Friday (10am to 5pm) - Saturday (10am to 4pm)

For further information ring

Chris Rainey tel: 01793 513431 - Kate Puleston tel: 020 8946 4489

or visit our website www.stampshows.net

JERWOOD PHILATELICS

(Founded 2010)

Established dealer specialising in:

- * Stitched booklets
- * Window booklets
- * Greetings & Christmas booklets
- * Machin cylinder blocks, date blocks etc
- * Smilers sheets
- * Modern MNH commemoratives, packs, errors etc.
- * Royal Mail year books & year packs
- * Accessories including stockcards, hinges, mounts, magnifiers etc
- * Selected material from earlier reigns
- * Regular Ebay auctions of world collections - Ideal for sorting & part time dealers
- * Collections & quality single items bought
- * Folded booklets
- * Prestige booklets
- * Post & Go stamps

Specialised booklet listings using both the Stanley Gibbons & the MBPC Bookmark catalogues

Website: www.jerwoodphilatelics.co.uk

Email: dave@jerwoodphilatelics.co.uk

Telephone: 0121 249 5277

Address: 1103A Bristol Road South, Birmingham, B31 2QP

MBPC catalogue numbers are used with kind permission.

For more information on the Circle's activities and benefits of membership, please visit www.mbp-circle.co.uk



Member of the Philatelic Traders Society
(Membership number: 6026)

115th GERT MUELLER AUCTION

in August 2022



- 🔨 Single lots, a worldwide offer with many rarities, especially Germany
- 🔨 More than 2000 collections, lots and estates

Please order the free catalogues now!
Phone 0049 7243 561740



GERT MÜLLER
AUCTIONS SINCE 1951

CONSIGNMENTS WELCOME

FOUR AUCTIONS A YEAR

Gert Müller GmbH • International stamp and coin auctions
Carl-Zeiss-Str. 2 • 76275 Ettlingen/Germany • P: 0049 7243 561740 • F: 0049 7243 5617429
E-Mail: info@gert-mueller-auktion.de • Internet: www.gert-mueller-auktion.de

STAMP MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTION ORDER FORM

DIRECT DEBIT SUBSCRIPTIONS (UK ONLY)

Yes, I would like to subscribe to **Stamp Magazine**

- ☐ Print + Digital: £12.90 every 3 months
☐ Print Subscription: £11.00 every 3 months


YOUR DETAILS MUST BE COMPLETED

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms.....Initial.....Surname.....
 Address.....
 Postcode.....Country.....
 Tel.....Mobile.....
 Email.....D.O.B.....

I WOULD LIKE TO SEND A GIFT TO:

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms.....Initial.....Surname.....
 Address.....
 Postcode.....Country.....

INSTRUCTIONS TO YOUR BANK/BUILDING SOCIETY

Originator's reference 422562 
 Name of bank.....
 Address of bank.....
 Postcode.....
 Account holder.....
 Signature.....Date.....

Sort code.....Account number.....

Instructions to your bank or building society: Please pay MyTimeMedia Ltd. Direct Debits from the account detailed in this instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this instruction may remain with MyTimeMedia Ltd and if so, details will be passed electronically to my bank/building society.

Reference Number (official use only).....

Please note that banks and building societies may not accept Direct Debit instructions from some types of account.

CARD PAYMENTS & OVERSEAS

Yes, I would like to subscribe to **Stamp Magazine**,
 for 1 year (12 issues) with a one-off payment

UK ONLY:

- ☐ Print + Digital: £53.59
☐ Print: £45.99

EUROPE & ROW:

- ☐ EU Print + Digital: £76.59
☐ EU Print: £68.99
☐ ROW Print + Digital: £76.59
☐ ROW Print: £68.99

PAYMENT DETAILS

☐ Postal Order/Cheque ☐ Visa/MasterCard ☐ Maestro
 Please make cheques payable to MyTimeMedia Ltd and write code ST2022 on the back

Cardholder's name.....

Card no: (Maestro).....

Valid from.....Expiry date.....Maestro issue no.....

Signature.....Date.....

TERMS & CONDITIONS: Offer ends 31st December 2022. MyTime Media collects your data so that we can fulfil your subscription. We may also, from time to time, send you details of MyTime Media offers, events and competitions but you always have a choice and can opt out by emailing us at unsubscribe@stampmagazine.co.uk. Please select here if you are happy to receive such offers by email ☐ by post ☐ by phone ☐. We do not share or sell your data with/to third parties. Details you share with us will be managed as outlined in our Privacy Policy here www.mytimemedia.co.uk/privacy-policy.

**POST THIS FORM TO: MY TIME MEDIA LTD
 3 QUEENSBRIDGE, THE LAKES,
 NORTHAMPTON NN4 7BF.**

Please visit www.mytimemedia.co.uk/terms for full terms & conditions

CODE ST2022



PRINT + DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION

12 Issues **delivered to your door**

Great savings on the shop price

Download each new issue to your device

A **75% discount** on your Digital Subscription

Access your subscription on **multiple devices**



PRINT SUBSCRIPTION

12 Issues **delivered to your door**

Great savings on the shop price

Never miss an issue

SUBSCRIBE TODAY

SUBSCRIBE TODAY

and enjoy great savings
on the shop price!

DIGITAL
SUBSCRIPTIONS
AVAILABLE ONLINE!

As Britain's longest-running independent philatelic magazine, Stamp Magazine offers a wide range of news, features and opinion to interest, entertain and inform you, whatever you collect. Our news pages are lively and well-informed, and the GB Collector section gives you the inside line on all upcoming British issues. Our features are the best-written and best illustrated in the world of philately, and our regular columnists pull no punches. Stamp Magazine publishes 12 great issues a year.




SAVE
75%* ON
DIGITAL ISSUE

Offer ends 31st December 2022. *This digital discount is only available when you subscribe to the 'Print + Digital' package. You can still get a great discount on the digital package, please visit the URL stated below for more information. Please see www.mytimemedia.co.uk/terms for full terms & conditions.

SUBSCRIBE SECURELY ONLINE

 <http://stamp.secureorder.co.uk/STP/ST2022>

CALL OUR ORDER LINE

 **0344 243 9023**

Lines open weekdays 8am – 8pm GMT & Saturday 9:30am – 3:30pm GMT

Quote ref: ST2022

Calls are charged at the same rate as standard UK landlines and are included as part of any inclusive or free minutes allowances. There are no additional charges with this number. Overseas calls will cost more.

Letters

GET IN TOUCH

These pages are devoted to giving you the opportunity to have your say. Whether you want to praise or complain, suggest or advise, add information or correct it, or just get something off your chest, we'd love to hear from you.

Send your letters to:
Stamp Magazine, David Hall
Publishing Ltd, Suite 6G, Eden
House, Enterprise Way,
Edenbridge, Kent TN8 6HF

Or send an e-mail to:
guy.thomas@dhp.co.uk

The Editor reads all letters, but is unable to answer them all personally. We reserve the right to edit letters for publication.

Stamp Magazine... as seen on TV

Blimey! May 8 was a busy day for philately in the national media.

Not only was there a philatelist on Radio 2's 'Geek of the Week' spot on Sunday afternoon (although the DJ, Gary Davis, didn't have a clue what a philatelist was, nor how to pronounce it), but the plotline of the ITV crime drama series *Grace* that evening centred on some valuable stamps!

It just shows how influential the Editor of *Stamp Magazine* is!

Terry Davies, Caersws

Perhaps more even influential than you suppose! If you look really carefully at the first scene featuring the stamp dealer in that episode of Grace, you can just make out that there's a copy of Stamp Magazine lying on the desk in front of him!

This is known in the television production business as 'set dressing', and I was asked in advance to agree to it. I'm not sure why they bother asking, however, because the magazine would be impossible to spot if you weren't looking specifically for it. -Ed

LETTER OF THE MONTH

It's lazy to assume that television and comic-strip stamps are aimed at kids

It is often suggested, including in the Letters pages of *Stamp Magazine*, that we should tolerate special stamp issues on 'popular culture' themes such as film franchises, television programmes and comic strip characters because they will attract children to the hobby.

Is that really true, or is it a lazy assumption?

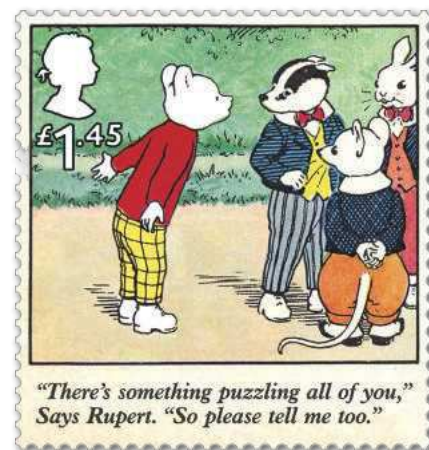
Most young people watch less television than their elders, and read fewer magazines. When they do watch and read, they are not opting for 20th-century programmes and comic strips.

Royal Mail issues such as Thunderbirds in 2011, Comics in 2012, Classic Children's TV in 2014, Star Wars in 2015-19, Classic Toys in 2017, Dad's Army in 2018, Marvel in 2019, Rupert Bear and Star Trek in 2020, and Dennis & Gnasher and DC Collection in 2021 were not aimed at young people.

They were aimed at older people (mostly middle-aged men) who recall the featured subjects with nostalgia.

As for the 'fan sheets', framed prints, silver replicas and bumper packs... young people can't afford them.

Gabriel Donnelly, Belfast



ABOVE: Were stamp issues such as the 2015 Star Wars and 2020 Rupert Bear sets really aimed at children?

Old-style Machin that was rejected far too early

With old-style Machin definitives about to be demonetised in 2023, I seem to have been the victim of a sorting office that is ahead of the times.

Having purchased a booklet from an eBay merchant based in the UK, I received a card through my letterbox from Royal Mail saying 'Sorry, there's a fee to pay before we can deliver your item'.

The reason given was that 'The sender did not pay the full postage'.

I paid the amount due online, which was £2, and the envelope arrived with a yellow 'Fee to pay' sticker, and a Royal Mail redelivery sticker covering a large part of the stamp.

After peeling this back for a closer look, the 1st class Machin looks perfectly genuine to me, and fluorescent bands show under ultra-violet light.

I can only speculate that the stamp was thought to be invalid because the sorting staff had seen a circular about the demonetisation of Machin stamps without data matrix codes and intervened overzealously, causing unnecessary frustration and delay.

I wonder if this is a sign of things to come?

Ian Winterbotham, Kingston-upon-Thames



SOAPBOX

Yes, it is possible to find genuine philatelic bargains on eBay. It's simply a case of knowing where and how to look, says Jack Hughes

I have been buying and occasionally selling on eBay for more than 20 years, and it is a real blessing to our hobby, making it much easier to trade philatelic material which might otherwise be hard to come by.

Not only is it convenient as a market place, but I remain pleasantly surprised that I can still find bargains there. Yes, bargains!

Of course, fools and their money are soon parted, but if you follow some simple advice you can ensure you are making the most of eBay's potential without becoming a victim of unscrupulous sellers.

OUTSIDE THE BOX

A recent great buy was a group of mixed world postal history which had mistakenly been listed for sale in the 'UK Queen Victoria line-engraved stamps' section.

I don't know if this bizarre placement was the fault of the seller or a glitch on the website, but it's an example of one way to find bargains, because misplaced items are more likely to be sold cheaply.

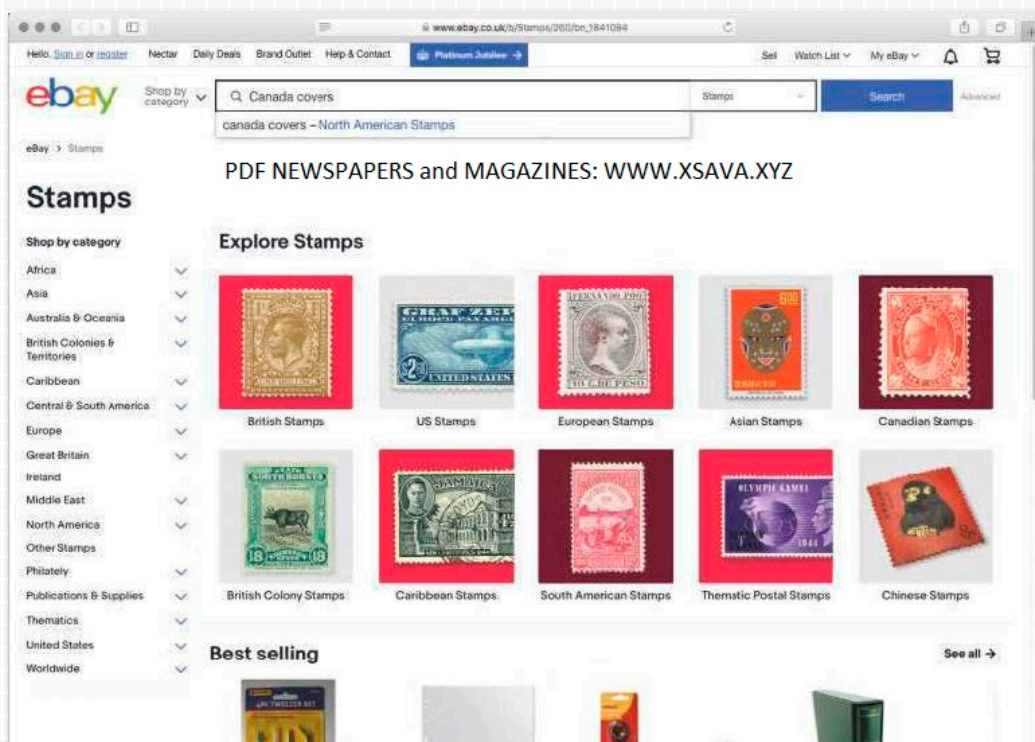
Rather than simply being led by the site's own categories, my advice is to positively search for items you want.

In other words, don't just go to the 'Canada covers' section and see what is listed there, but use eBay's search function, by typing in 'Canada covers' in the 'Stamps' area.

You might be surprised what turns up in unexpected places, as many sellers are lazy, just dumping everything into the 'worldwide' category, or incompetent, placing things in the wrong section.

ON THE FRINGE

Another way to find cheap items is to recognise which sellers know nothing



about philately, and are really house-clearers in disguise.

House-clearers are less likely to understand the material they are selling, or know the value of it, so they will be unable to give the accurate description which will attract all potential buyers.

One giveaway here is that house-clearers generally use photographs taken by phone, whereas philatelic sellers tend to know that they need better images, and invest in scanners.

Spend a bit of time checking those phone images, and real bargains can be found. Search for 'stamp bundles' and see what happens...

BEYOND THE PALE

Of course, you have to be aware that some bargains are not real.

It's normally not worth people's time to forge modern postal history, as prices in this area are quite subjective, but be wary of expensive stamps off-cover which are offered at suspiciously cheap prices.

Forgeries exist, of course, but just as dangerous are faked items. It's easy to reperforate, regum or overprint a cheap stamp to convert it into something supposedly much more valuable.

Typically, cheats are more likely to

point out the 'rare' or 'expensive' nature of an item than sellers of genuine material, so be sceptical when you read these claims.

You might occasionally be lucky and find a rare stamp in a mixed bunch, but an item flagged up as being both rare and cheap should arouse your suspicion.

INTO THE FRAY

Selling on eBay can be fun and can bring in some useful extra funds, although it can be a pain to work out how to do it.

There are various boxes to tick or untick. For example, since Brexit it is better for a small seller not to sell to buyers in the European Union.

And if eBay automatically enrolls you into its Global Shipping Programme (intended more for books or antiques) then find the box to 'untick' as this is slow and expensive.

Packing sold items is simple, although many make a mess of it. Sandwich stamps or covers in stiff cardboard, from a breakfast cereal box for example, then wrap the whole bundle in clingfilm to secure and weatherproof it.

Rather than buying your postage online, use current stamps on the envelope; that's the least you can do to boost the hobby!

Jack Hughes

Long live the thematic mixed packet!

Shortly after reading your entertaining 'Philostalgia' feature on old-time philatelic products (March issue, page 44), I was given some modern stamp packets as a present.

One had 100 mixed stamps on the theme of birds and the other 100 on the theme of maps. Very similar to the kind of packet that you used to be able to buy in Woolworth's and other shops, both were marketed by a company called Explora Stamps.

My initial reaction was surprise that these packets still exist, but my follow-up reaction was delight that they do!

Keith Wilson, Guildford



Data matrix forgeries are inevitable

Richard West's Talking Point (May issue, page 35) asked whether the new-look Machin definitives with data matrix codes will deter forgers?

Methinks, no. I'd hazard a guess that some enterprising fraudster is on the cusp of releasing an avalanche of fakes online, very soon.

Ray Howes, Weymouth

Scottish connections in Guyana's postal history

Your feature on Guyana overprints (May issue, page 40) was fascinating, and an excellent reference work for those of us interested in the former British colony in South America.

As a collector of postal history with a Scots connection, I was particularly interested in the cover bearing postmarks for Nigg.

Nigg is a small port on the Moray Firth, and it's namesake in Guyana is no coincidence. Along with a number of other former Guyana slave settlements, such as Cromarty, its Scottish name testifies to the role played in the slave trade by Scots, including a substantial number from the Highlands and Islands.

A detailed history of this can be found in Dr David Alston's book *Slaves & Highlanders: Silenced Histories of Scotland & The Caribbean*.

Some groups in the Cromarty area of Scotland support projects to help children in the town of New Amsterdam in Guyana, which has a Presbyterian church and lies only a few miles from the townships of Nigg and Cromarty.

Russ Walker, Glasgow



Exhibitions should be easier to navigate even with imperfect eyesight

I made two visits to the London 2022 international exhibition in February. It was a great show, and there were so many things to see and do after a two-year wait.

The only problem I had was finding the exhibits I wanted to study. The numbering was too high up, and the words were printed in white on a brown background, making figures difficult to read.

I would like to suggest that labels should be printed in black on white, and placed at eye level. We do not all have perfect eyesight!

P E Coe, Harrow



A single stamp can sometimes be enough

Here's a 1980 stamp from South Africa, marking the 100th anniversary of the Pact of Paardekraal (Krugersdorp), at which the leaders of Transvaal vowed to reclaim their independence prior to the First Anglo-Boer War.

How about a British stamp of similar design, showing the Cenotaph with the Union Flag behind it, to be issued on Armistice Day?

But I do mean one 1st class stamp: no unnecessary values, no miniature sheet, no presentation pack, and certainly no 'collectables'.

Cliff Jermyn-Francis, York

Selling your stamp collection?

Warwick and Warwick have an expanding requirement for world collections, single country collections, single items, covers, proof material and specialised collections. Our customer base is increasing dramatically and we need an ever-larger supply of quality material to keep pace with demand. The market is currently very strong for G.B. and British Commonwealth and the Far East. If you are considering the sale of your collection, now is the time to act.

FREE VALUATIONS

We will provide a free, professional valuation of your collection, without obligation on your part to proceed. Either we will make you a fair, binding private treaty offer, or we will recommend inclusion of your property in our next public auction.

FREE TRANSPORTATION

We can arrange insured transportation of your collection to our Warwick offices completely free of charge. If you decline our offer, we ask you to cover the return carriage costs only.

FREE VISITS

Visits by our valuers are possible anywhere in the country or abroad, usually within 48 hours, in order to value larger and valuable collections. Please phone for details.

ADVISORY DAYS

We have an ongoing programme of advisory days, in all regions of the United Kingdom, where you can meet us and discuss the sale of your collection. Visit our website for further details.

EXCELLENT PRICES

Because of the strength of our customer base we are in a position to offer prices that we feel sure will exceed your expectations.

ACT NOW

Telephone or email Patrick Collyer today with details of your property.



Warwick & Warwick

Auctioneers and Valuers
www.warwickandwarwick.com



Get the experts on your side!

Warwick & Warwick Ltd., Chalon House, Scar Bank,
Millers Road, Warwick CV34 5DB England

Tel: (01926) 499031 • Fax: (01926) 491906
Email: patrick.collyer@warwickandwarwick.com

 /warwickauctions

 @warwickauctions

Buying & selling USA & transatlantic Postal history

YORK STAMP & COIN FAIR

York Racecourse, York YO23 1EX
15-16 July

Stephen T. Taylor

5 Glenbuck Road
Surbiton, Surrey KT6 6BS
Phone: 01372 468566

info@stephentaylor.co.uk
https://stephentaylor.co.uk

Your American dealer in Britain



The History & Local Post of **RATTLESNAKE ISLAND, LAKE ERIE**

Revised and Updated - 2009

This modern edition contains
More Local History
Additional Detail of the Ford Tri-Motor
All Stamps including 2009 issue
Over 200 Illustrations

ORDER YOUR COPY TODAY

Send to:

John Wells, P.O. Box 222
Waltham Cross, Hertfordshire, EN8 8GS,
England

Price including postage & packing only
£14.50
US \$29.50

Payment accepted by cheque or money order
Sorry credit card facilities not available



**For Those
Who Collect
The Best**



Great Britain and British Commonwealth Classic Approvals

For over 20 years I have been sending out fine quality approval selections. There is considerable pleasure in selecting the stamps you require in the comfort of your own home. There is no obligation or pressure to purchase. I will tailor your selections to your budget and area of interest.

If you have not purchased from approvals before, you may well find this is just the service you have been looking for, no fuss, highly convenient, very prompt. You don't need to pay 40% to 60% of SG catalogue price. The great majority of my prices are 33% or less for good quality material.

YES... I should like to try your excellent value selections. I will undertake to select and pay for any stamps retained and return the remainder within 21 days. I have ticked the following areas of interest.

Great Britain all reigns ☐ or QV-KEVII ☐ Three Kings ☐
QEII ☐ Channel Islands/TOM ☐
British Commonwealth all reigns ☐ or QV-KEVII ☐
Three Kings ☐ Queen EII ☐

Name Mr/Mrs/Ms

Address

Post Code Tel.....

My maximum budget for quality stamps at the right price is £

M. L. Clifford, PO Box 25, Bognor Regis, West Sussex, PO21 3YU.

COUNTRY CONUNDRUM

Regional and country stamps have been a feature of British philately for nearly 65 years, but their future is unclear. Is this the end of the country road?

In the BBC archives there's a television interview dating from 1958, on the subject of a new range of postage stamps.

'Why have you decided to have regional stamps?' asks the interviewer. 'Has there been any great public demand for these?'

The representative from the Post Office replies: 'No great public demand, but a great deal of interest'.

A follow-up question was: 'Is it going to be financially worthwhile?'

The response was: 'We think we will make a little profit out of this... Philatelists are always interested in new stamps, and...we get a little bit of revenue from time to time out of them.'

On August 18, 1958, separate 3d designs were issued for Guernsey, Jersey, Isle of Man, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales, with the Wilding portrait of the Queen accompanied by emblems representing the territory.

Over the years, extra denominations and changes in postal tariffs made these regional definitives a dynamic collectable.

After Guernsey and Jersey became postally independent in 1969, and the Isle of Man in 1973, Great Britain continued to issue definitives for the countries (including for England from 2001), and eventually they came to be known as country definitives.

Following decimalisation, the Wilding head was replaced by the Machin head, and this was in turn replaced by a more pictorial approach in 1999-2001. Now there were four different designs for each country, two of them non-value indicators and two meeting airmail rates, updated most years to reflect tariff changes.

As yet, however, no new

country definitives have been issued for the rate increases that came into effect in April this year.

The reason might seem obvious. Given the need to reissue the entire Machin range with data matrix codes, new country stamps are not a

high priority.

However, the existing country definitives are included in the Swap Out scheme, so one assumes that they will be invalidated next year. Will country stamps with digital coding appear at some time? No formal announcement has been



THE AUTHOR
Richard West is Stamp Magazine's Editor at Large and a Past President of the National Philatelic Society

made about this.

There is also uncertainty over the continuing availability of the existing stamps. Royal Mail's current Stock List shows the country definitives remaining on sale after all old-style Machin definitives were withdrawn on May 28. But at one post office that provides a philatelic service, I was told that they were removed from sale at the end of March.

Clearly, now is a good time to ask whether these stamps are still relevant?

Only occasionally has my mail borne the designs for Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales, and the only time I have seen the England designs used recently has been on mail received from dealers, utilising old stocks.

Whilst I have not undertaken extensive research, the few post offices where I have enquired about the England stamps have never even heard of them. I was told in one office that all stamps are English!

In contrast, the same request made in post offices in Scotland and Wales did bring an acknowledgment that separate designs exist, even if they were not in stock.

It is a fact that the NVIs of all four countries have been subject to new printings since they were initially released, so there must be some demand, but is there enough to warrant their continuation?

Would it cause any great upset if, after nearly 65 years, the issuing of 'regional' stamps came to an end? ■



ABOVE: You are being invited to trade-in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales stamps for definitives with data matrix codes. So is this the end of the line for country definitives?

'Will country stamps with data matrix codes appear at some point? Is now a good time to ask whether these stamps are still relevant?'

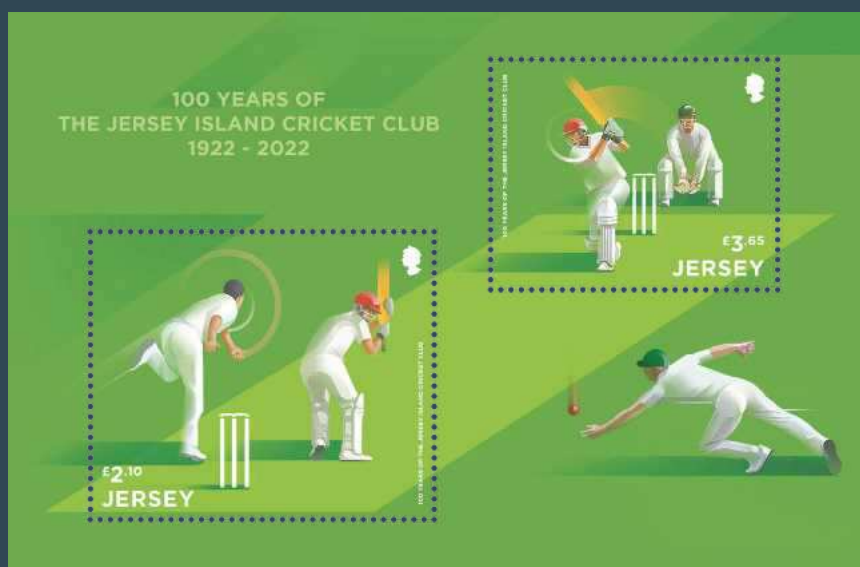
WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Do you think country stamps serve a purpose? Would there be an outcry if they were discontinued, and if so from where? E-mail your comments to guy.thomas@dhp.co.uk



JERSEY STAMPS & COLLECTABLES

100 YEARS OF THE JERSEY ISLAND CRICKET CLUB



7 JULY 2022

Stamps, miniature sheets and souvenir sheetlets are also available on first day covers and in presentation packs. Visit the website to see our full range and to order online.

WWW.JERSEYSTAMPS.COM

Email: stamps@jerseypost.com or call us on +44 (0) 1534 616717

www.facebook.com/jerseystamps [@JerseyStamps](https://twitter.com/JerseyStamps) [@JerseyStamps](https://www.instagram.com/JerseyStamps)

Jersey Post Group

COMPETITION

Spot The Stamp

WIN

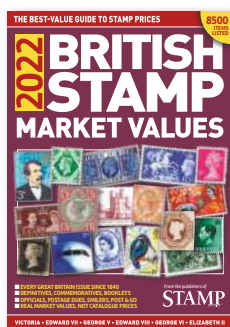
a copy of *British Stamp Market Values 2022*

We have a copy of *British Stamp Market Values 2022*, the authoritative annual price guide from the publishers of *Stamp Magazine*, to give away to one eagle-eyed reader.

For your chance to win, simply take a close look at the enlarged detail of a GB stamp shown below, and see whether you can identify it. All you have to do is tell us the stamp's face value, the name of the set it is from and the year of issue.

Send your answer on a postcard (or sealed envelope), with your name and address, to Spot The Stamp (Jul), *Stamp Magazine*, David Hall Publishing Ltd, Suite 6G, Eden House, Enterprise Way, Edenbridge, Kent TN8 6HF.

The closing date is July 14, 2022, and the first correct answer drawn from our postbag will win the book. Good luck!



Terms & Conditions: Entry is open to UK residents with a permanent UK address, except employees (and their families) of David Hall Publishing, its printers and agents. Winners must be aged 18 or over. Only one entry per household is permissible. Prizes are not transferable to another individual and no cash or other alternatives will be offered. The promoters reserve the right to amend or alter the terms of competitions. The winner will be chosen from all correct entries received by the closing date stated. The decision of the judges is final, and no correspondence will be entered into. Please note that your data will be managed in compliance with GDPR law. Our privacy policy can be found at www.mytimemedia.co.uk/privacy

COMPETITION

Royal Mail prizes

WIN



a Migratory Birds presentation pack



We have a presentation pack of the *Migratory Birds* stamp issue to give away to each of 12 lucky winners, courtesy of Royal Mail.

The set of 10 illustrates species which breed in Britain but travel amazingly long distances to spend their winters elsewhere.

To enter, visit www.stampmagazine.co.uk/competitions, answer the question below and fill in your contact details. The closing date is July 14, 2022. Winners will be drawn at random after that date.

Terms and conditions apply. Please note that your data will be managed in compliance with GDPR law. Our privacy policy can be found at www.mytimemedia.co.uk/privacy

QUESTION

Which bird featured in this set migrates longer distances than any other species?

COMPETITION WINNERS

Stamp Designs of David Gentleman presentation pack

The answer to our competition question in the April issue was Tony Benn, and the 12 lucky winners whose correct answers were drawn at random were Simon Adams from Kings Lynn, Susan Mackenzie from Edinburgh, Jeffrey Chim from Newport, Brian Stabler from Beverley, Marie Rungapadiachy from Newark, Harry Letham from Newcastle upon Tyne, Josh Britton from Harrogate, Annette Oliver from Redcar, Tom Watson from Sandhurst, Ruth Newport from Winscombe, Champaklal Lad from Ashton under Lyne, and Frances Grasby from Hartlepool.

Spot The Stamp

The Spot The Stamp winner from the April issue is George Butler from Ulverston, who correctly identified the mystery stamp (right) as the 1st class value from the 2003 Christmas set.



SERIOUS BUYER...

Every year I travel hundreds of miles throughout the UK, Europe and Scandinavia, buying stocks, collections and accumulation. And I've been doing this since 1970.

WHAT DO I BUY?

I buy virtually anything in stamps and covers, from specialised one country collections to general lots and accumulations, from better quality single items to complete dealer's stocks. If it's philatelic, I'm interested.

WHY SELL TO ME?

For **FOUR** very good reasons:

ACCURATE VALUATIONS I have over thirty years full time experience as a major buyer in the stamp trade, and I buy from all the main UK & Continental auction houses. I make accurate, efficient valuations based on the very latest market values.

FAIR VALUATIONS I work on high turnover with low profit margins which means I must buy - and I pay the top market price to make sure I do. I cannot afford to waste my time and yours by making unrealistic offers which will not stand comparison.

IMMEDIATE PAYMENT All my offers are backed by immediate payment.

We agree a price and you get paid there and then. It's that simple.

HOME VISITS I travel extensively, which means I can easily arrange to view bulky, valuable collections in your own home - at no extra cost to you. And finally...

I buy most of my material from auction, usually at well below my "top price".

If those people had sold directly to me they would have been paid more, paid immediately and would not have paid commission or gone to any other expense.

Think about it - and then give me a ring.

See me at:

17th-18th June, Stafford

2nd July, Sutton Coldfield

8th July, Royal National Hotel, London

Details correct at time of going to press

Member of Philatelic Traders Society

JOHN CURTIN LIMITED

(International Stamp Dealer)

PO Box 31, Sunbury-on-Thames, Middlesex TW16 6HS

Tel: 01932 785635 Fax: 01932 770523 (24 hour)

E-mail: jcbuying@btinternet.com



APHV



ASDA

NEW WEBSITE

www.jcstamps.co.uk

ZEBOOSE.COM

STAMPS PROOFS COVERS ARTWORK





Tony Lester Auctions Ltd

Finding homes for your stamp collections since 1980

September Sale

Our September Auction will include KGV1 collections, BC one country collections incl. Cyprus, Gibraltar and Malta, Foreign incl. Scandinavia, and a strong section of GB incl. QV Line Engraved, Surface Printed values to £5 orange, KGV high values, QE incl. varieties, Postage Dues, and a good section of pre-QE booklets.

On-line bidding via Easylive.



WE'RE LOOKING FOR COLLECTIONS

Do you have a collection you have been given and would like it to go to someone who will appreciate it and spend time on it?

Do you no longer have the time to spend on your collection and want it to go to someone who will enjoy it?

We're always looking for collections to buy or put in our auctions and with the stamp trade thriving at the moment, there's no better time to sell your collection. If you would like a free, friendly valuation for your stamp collection please give us a call on 01926 634809 or email us tonylester@btconnect.com.

CONTACT US TODAY FOR A FREE COPY OF OUR NEXT CATALOGUE.



TO: Tony Lester Auctions Ltd
The Sidings, Birdingbury Rd,
Marton, Nr Rugby,
Warwickshire CV23 9RX



(01926) 634809
www.tonylester.co.uk
tonylester@btconnect.com



Under the radar

Collecting mainstream British first day covers of the late 20th century is not much of a challenge. But if you narrow your focus to the smaller-scale and less well documented producers, there is a lot more to be discovered

■ Report by Alastair Gunn



Modern British first day covers are largely ignored today by collectors who see themselves as serious philatelists. They are seen, at best, as an accessible stepping stone into the wider hobby.

But 50 years ago they were a comparatively new and vibrant collectable, regarded by many as objects of beauty, by plenty as the ideal way to collect modern stamps, and by some as a potentially lucrative investment.

Now is a good time to revisit the first day covers of the late 20th century. Any hopes that they would appreciate in value are long gone, but they remain attractive and affordable items, with some potential for philatelic research.

ABOVE: First day cover for the 1966 Landscapes set, produced by Connoisseur, one of the leaders of the new wave of independent cover producers who emerged in the 1960s



ABOVE: First day cover for the second tranche of Machin definitives, issued on August 8, 1967, from an anonymous cover producer based in Dunstable. This small-scale venture has a particular charm due to the unfortunate misspelling of the world 'definitive'!

Hiding in plain sight

More first day covers from the 1960s, 1970s, 1980s and 1990s can now be found at stamp fairs than ever before, perhaps because the estates of those who collected them in the boom years are now hitting the market.

The majority of them leave little room for study. Post Office and Royal Mail official first day covers (which began in 1964 with the

Shakespeare Festival issue) are plentiful and well documented, offering few surprises.

The same could be said of coin covers produced in association with the Royal Mint, and the many covers on military themes produced by the British Forces Philatelic Service.

But it's a different matter when it comes to private cover producers. Although they are central to this

SPLIT DECISIONS

The General Anniversaries stamp issues of the late 1960s and early 1970s presented an interesting problem for cover producers, and some attractive solutions.

For example, it seemed pointless combining the four stamps in the Anniversaries set of May 29, 1968, on a single cover, as their themes were so diverse.

As a result, you will find single-stamped covers celebrating the 50th anniversary of Votes for Women, the 50th anniversary of the Royal Air Force, the 100th anniversary of the Trades Union Congress and the 200th anniversary of James Cook's first voyage of discovery.

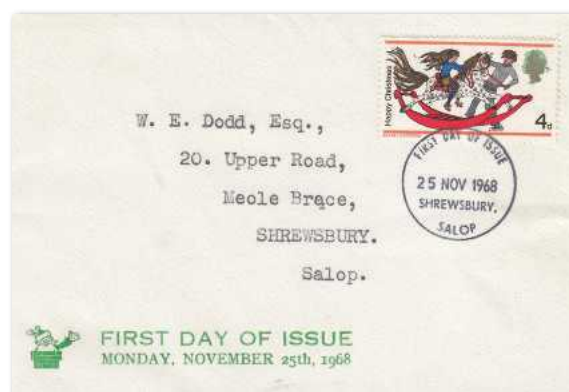
With a dedicated illustration, and perhaps a suitable postmark, each individual cover is more focused and therefore more powerful than one for the whole set.



ABOVE: Connoisseur first day cover for the 9d stamp in the 1968 Anniversaries set, celebrating the 50th anniversary of Votes for Women



ABOVE: Stuart first day cover for the 1s 9d stamp in the 1968 Anniversaries set, celebrating the 200th anniversary of James Cook's first voyage



ABOVE: First day cover for the 4d value in the 1968 Christmas issue, produced by W E Dodd of Shrewsbury. Dodd printed covers for at least four sets, in an unembellished style, but it is suspected that his print-runs were minuscule

area of the hobby, they can seem almost invisible in terms of the historical record.

Catalogue coverage

Why are there so few serious collectors of privately produced covers?

The main reason is one-dimensional cataloguing. First day cover catalogues axiomatically use the dates of the stamp issues as the structure underlying their listings. This is perfectly understandable, but it comes at the expense of any attempt to catalogue covers by producer.

The same problem manifests itself at stamp fairs, where dealers typically arrange first day covers in boxes by year, not by producer.

Covers from outside the mainstream are often easier to buy online, partly because websites are much better at identifying the producers clearly, and partly because producers are easier to search by name.

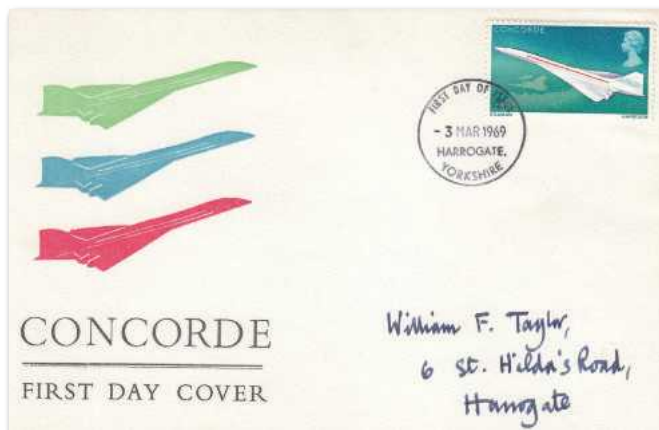
The private producers of the late 20th century deserve more research than they usually get, and their covers are worth looking out for. So who were they?

Larger-scale producers

The earliest significant companies included Philart (from as early as 1964), Rembrandt (1965), Stuart (1965), Pilgrim (1968) and Benham (1968).

An interloper was Art Craft, an American company which at times issued first day covers for British stamps, starting as early as 1948.

Later came Historic Relics (1969), Cotswold (1970), Mercury (1972), Colorano Silks (1974), Bradbury (1980), Presentation Philatelic Services (1981), CoverCraft (1983), The Westminster Collection (1987), Bletchley Park Post Office (1994) and GBFDC (1995).



ABOVE: First day cover for the 4d value in the 1969 Concorde issue, produced by William Taylor. The insert says only 30 copies were prepared; it is unknown how many survive



ABOVE: First day cover for the 1969 Cathedrals set, produced by Thames Covers of Essex, whose trademark was gold-foil embossing. The company was in operation for about six years

Some of these producers are still operating, notably Benham, Bradbury, Cotswold and Stuart (these two are now part of the same organisation), Westminster and GBFDC. Bear that in mind before you attempt a complete collection of any single brand.

Smaller-scale producers

A more interesting challenge may be hunting for first day covers from the smaller-scale producers.

In the early days these included Connoisseur (from as early as 1963), Stamp Publicity (1967), Wessex (1967), Thames (1968), Abbey (1969), Trident (1969), Cameo (1970), Dawn (1970), Gemini (1970) and Arlington (1971).

Later came Peter Scot (1978), Hawkwood (1980), Stewart Petty (1981), King (1983), Fine Art (1984), Cambridge Stamp Centre (1985), Fourpenny Post (1996) and Brazier (1999).

And then there are those who produced no more than a handful of first day covers, probably not companies but individuals working from home.

Their covers are generally not as embellished as those created by commercial producers, and are therefore often ignored, but they are almost certainly the rarest.

A fascinating exhibit could be made from such items, but they are a real challenge to find, and in many cases to identify.



ABOVE: First day cover for the 1970 Literary Anniversaries set, produced by Abbey Philatelists, which had an easily recognisable logo and trademark. The inscription suggests that 2,500 copies were created



ABOVE: First day cover for the 5d value in the 1970 Philympia International Exhibition issue, produced by Wessex Covers, whose distinctive wyvern logo can be seen at top left

Relative scarcity

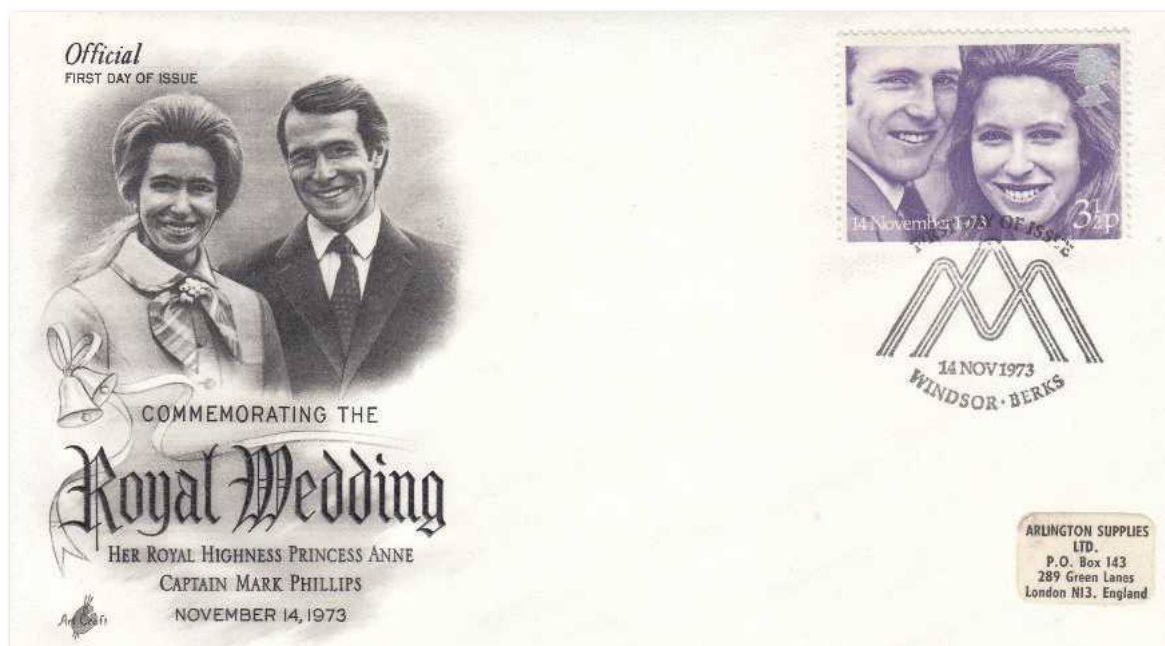
The identity of the producer is not always key to the market value of a first day cover, but it is certainly key to understanding its potential scarcity.

Some will claim that certain special handstamps are always the

most desirable, or covers produced by the company which sponsored the special handstamp.

However, such cancellations are generally the mark of a large print run by a major producer, and of course large print runs do not make for scarcity.

'Private cover producers are central to this area of the hobby, but they can seem almost invisible in the historical record'



LEFT: First day cover for the 3½p value in the 1973 Royal Wedding issue, produced by Art Craft, an American interloper in the British market, and addressed to another cover producer, Arlington

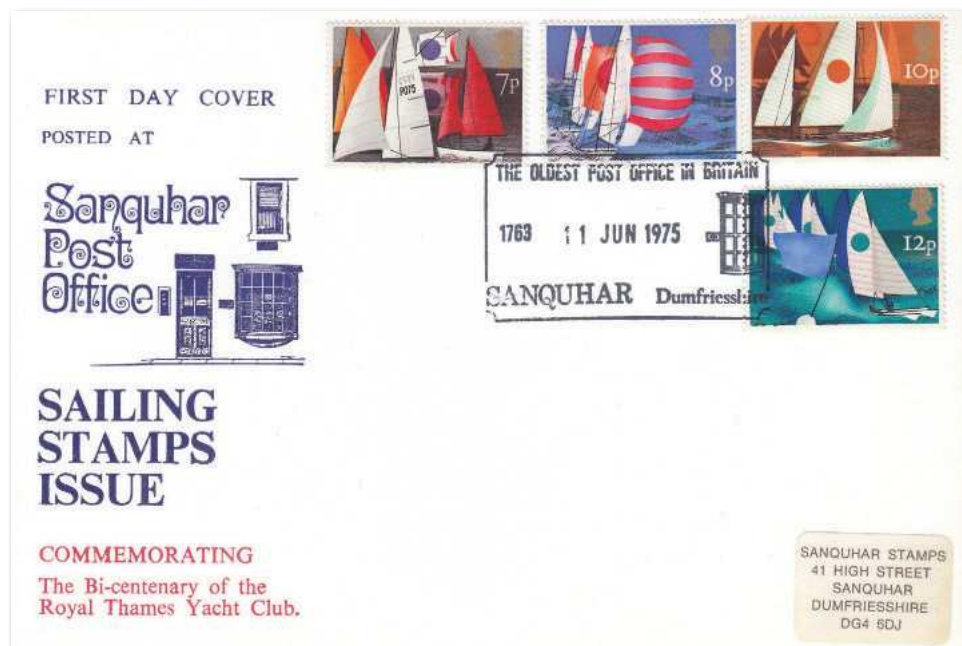
Positive identification

Identifying the producer of a cover is not always straightforward. Some have their name and address printed at the bottom, but others do not.

Look for recognisable logos, such as Stuart's thistle, Art Craft's painter's palette, or Connoisseur's 'C' in Gothic script. You will also find consistent styles which are retained over the years, such as Cotswold's three-sided gold border.

The fun starts when you examine a first day cover and you can find no way of identifying the producer; the postal address, or the name of a large corporation, might reflect who made it, but then again it might not.

Real research may be needed to work out the origins of such covers,



ABOVE: First day cover for the 1975 Sailing set, produced by Sanquhar Stamps, whose covers span a short period and are scarce. The operation was an offshoot of Sanquhar Post Office in Dumfriesshire, which claims to be the world's oldest, and is thus a popular option for souvenir cancellations

MAXIMUM CARDS

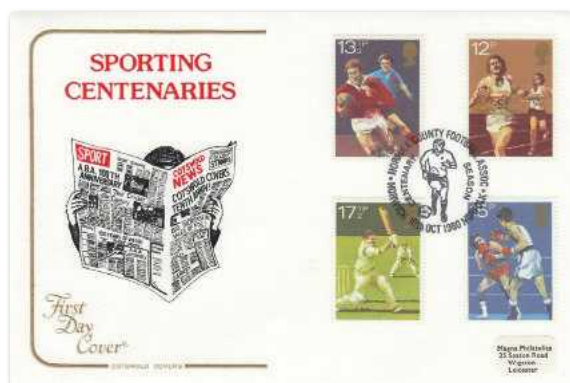
Maximum cards deserve to be included in any discussion of first day covers, even if a postcard is not technically a cover.

To meet the definition of a maximum card, for exhibition purposes, it has to be cancelled on the day of issue, as well as having an image which reflects (but is not identical to) that of the stamp.

RIGHT: Maximum card for one of the 4d stamps in the 1967 British Wild Flowers set, featuring bindweed and viper's bugloss, produced by Stamp Publicity in association with Cameo



GB FIRST DAY COVERS 1964-99



ABOVE: First day cover for the 1980 Sports Centenaries set, produced by Cotswold Covers, which has been active since 1970 and remains so to this day

including comparisons with other examples from the same period.

Cut-off point

As with other branches of philately, first day cover collecting becomes less appealing with excessive commercialisation.

You could argue that the era of commercialisation can be dated to 1964, when Royal Mail started producing philatelic covers, or for convenience you could pin it to 1971, when decimal currency was introduced.

However, interesting covers were still being produced until at least 2000, when commercial producers began to print too many, and everyone was able to design and print their own at home using a personal computer.

First day covers of the late 20th century are an under-appreciated area. They can be be classy works of art, although not all styles will be to your taste.

There are too many to collect them all, but that does not mean they should be ignored. Narrow your focus, and there are gems to be found in dealer's 'junk' boxes. ■

RIGHT: First day cover for the 1990 20p stamp promoting the Stamp World Exhibition at Alexandra Palace, produced by CoverCraft on behalf of the venue



ABOVE: First day cover for the 17p value in the 1985 Insects issue, produced by The Spastics Society. Used for sending information to its supporters in the 1977-92 period, the society's covers featured only one stamp and carried its name on the reverse, whereas other charities' covers were anonymous



RIGHT: First day cover for the 1994 50th Anniversary of D-Day set, produced by Mercury. The company was known for philatelic/numismatic covers (PNCs), and this example features a 50p commemorative coin



BIG BUSINESS

Some large organisations had a brush with the philatelic world by issuing a single first day cover as a one-off, especially in the 1980s.

Examples include Harrison & Sons, for the College of Arms stamp issue in 1984; the Friesian Cattle Society, for the British Cattle issue in 1984; Friends of the Earth, for the Nature Conservation issue of 1986; and Hovis, for the Food & Farming Year issue of 1989.

In most cases these companies contracted a specialist cover producer to handle the project on their behalf. It is not always obvious which producer this was, but it is known that Arlington, Cameo and Stamp Publicity were involved in such deals.



ABOVE: First day cover for the 35p Cereals stamp in the 1989 Food & Farming Year set, issued by Hovis but produced by Arlington, with a Windsor cancellation of March 7







**THIS IS JUST A SMALL PART
OF OUR 2022 CATALOGUE**
email: sales@ajhstamps.co.uk
Web Page: www.ajhstamps.co.uk


AJH STAMPS LTD
THE LAURELS
MANCHESTER ROAD, ACCRINGTON
LANCS, BB5 2PF

Registered Business No:
24407076
LTD. Co No. 4110518
Est: 1970



TEL: (01254) 393740 FAX: (01254) 382274

 <p>REF T500 FREE GENUINE 1840 1d BLACK WITH EVERY GREAT BRITAIN BOX FILE GREAT BRITAIN INC 500 DIFF OFF PAPER, ALSO STAMPS ON & OFF PAPER INC KGV1 & WILDINGS IDEAL FOR WTM ETC PLUS ALBUM PAGES MOST REIGNS, MINT & USED AND FDCs, ITEMS OF NOTE ARE 1841 1d & 2d IMPERF PLUS QV TO 1/- GREEN. KEVII WITH VALUES TO 1/-, KGV WITH VALUES TO 2/6 SEAHORSE, KEVII SET, PLUS KGV1 WITH VALUES TO £1 AND QEII TO £5 MAKES THIS A GOOD SORT WITH MANY BETTER VALUES WITH A CAT PRICE OF £1,000+ FOR JUST £149.50 PLUS £9.75 FOR DELIVERY BY DPD/Registered</p>	 <p>CAT £95 REF T501 FREE C. O. G. H. TRIANGULAR CAT £95 WITH EVERY COMMONWEALTH BOX FILE COMMONWEALTH MIX INC 1,000 DIFFERENT OFF PAPER USED STC £150+ ALSO ALBUM PAGES WITH A GOOD RANGE OF COUNTRIES, PLUS STAMPS LOOSE ON AND OFF PAPER TO SORT, WITH GOOD MIX OF COUNTRIES, ALSO AUCTION LEFT OVERS CONTAINING STAMPS CAT £25+, MAKES THIS A GOOD SORT WITH BETTER ITEMS EARLY TO MODERN FOR JUST £99.50 PLUS £9.75 FOR DELIVERY BY DPD</p>	 <p>REF T502 FREE STOCK BOOK WITH EVERY FOREIGN BOX FILE FOREIGN COUNTRY MIX OF ON & OFF PAPER EARLY TO MODERN 1,000+ & MIXED ALBUM PAGES WITH A GOOD MIX OF COUNTRIES & £50+ OF BAGGED & PRICED ALBUM PAGES AND AUCTION LEFT OVERS WITH STAMPS CAT £20+ £89.50 PLUS £9.75 FOR</p>	 <p>REF T503 FREE GENUINE 1840 2d BLUE WITH EVERY GREAT BRITAIN BOX FILE INCLUDING ALBUM PAGES, LOOSE STAMPS ON AND OFF PAPER 6 REIGNS, A BAG CONTAINING 500 DIFFERENT GREAT BRITAIN OFF PAPER AND FDCs, ALSO SINGLE ITEMS 1855 1d & 2d QV TO 1/- 1887 GREEN AND RED KEVII TO 10d, KGV TO 5/- SEAHORSE, KGV1 TO £1 1939 AND QEII TO £10, MAKES THIS CAT £1,500+ £179.50 PLUS £9.75 FOR DELIVERY BY DPD/Registered</p>	
<p>REF T504 GREAT BRITAIN BOX FILES BUY REF T500 & T503 AND RECEIVE BOTH FREE GIFTS, 1840 1d BLACK & 2d BLUE, AND WE WILL REPLACE 500 DIFFERENT WITH 1,000 DIFFERENT TO MAKE THIS PAIR OF BOX FILES A SUPERB SORT & VALUE FOR MONEY CAT AT £3,500+ AT JUST £310.00 PLUS £14.00 FOR DELIVERY BY DPD OR REG POST</p>	<p>REF T603 FOREIGN SHOE BOX CRAMMED WITH ON AND OFF PAPER FOREIGN COUNTRIES. ALL WORLD MIXTURE STATED TO BE A MINIMUM OF 1000+ DIFFERENT. ALSO ALBUM PAGES, LOOSE STAMPS AUCTION LEFT OVERS CONTAINING STAMPS CAT £5+ THIS IS A VERY GOOD CHEAP SORT (NO GREAT BRITAIN) OVER 4000 SOLD THE LAST 50 YEARS FOR JUST £59.50 PLUS £4.75 POSTAGE & INSURANCE</p>	<p>REF T604 COMMONWEALTH SHOE BOX CONTAINING ON AND OFF PAPER, UNCHECKED A TO Z EARLY TO MODERN, LOOSE AND ON LEAVES, A GOOD MAINLY MODERN MIX, BUT SOME EARLY MIXED IN, BETTER SINGLES, CHEAP LOT, 1000+ STAMPS, MAINLY USED, FOR JUST £59.50 PLUS £4.75 POSTAGE</p>	<p>REF T605 CHANNEL IS, REGIONALS & IOM SHOE BOX CONTAINS STAMPS ON & OFF PAPER, DEFINITIVES & COMMEMORATIVES, PLUS ALBUM PAGES FDCs ETC, ALSO SOME SETS & SINGLES, MINT & USED, A GOOD SORT FOR THESE POPULAR COUNTRIES, FOR JUST £59.50 PLUS £4.75 POSTAGE & INS</p>	<p>REF T606 GREAT BRITAIN SHOE BOX, FREE 1841 IMPERF 1d RED & 2d BLUE CAT £130 CONTAINING A GOOD MIX OF ALL 6 REIGNS FROM 1d REDS TO MODERN INC STAMPS ON & OFF PAPER, INC SOME EARLY, IDEAL FOR WATERMARKS, ALSO ALBUM PAGES, FDCs, MINT & USED SETS & SINGLES ETC £59.50 PLUS £4.75 POSTAGE</p>

 <p>REF T602 WORLD (NO GB) 12KG BOX BOX OF ALL WORLD COLLECTIONS COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN (NO GREAT BRITAIN) AND NO STAMPS ON PAPER A GOOD MIX OF COUNTRIES AND SINGLE COUNTRY COLLECTIONS IN STOCKBOOKS AND ALBUMS AS RECEIVED COULD BE ANYTHING 1,000s OF STAMPS (EVERY BOX DIFFERENT) £299.50 PLUS £16.00 DELIVERY BY DPD.</p>	 <p>REF T510 THE FAMOUS ALL WORLD WOODEN TEA CHEST OF STAMPS REF T510 THE FAMOUS ALL WORLD WOODEN TEA CHEST OF STAMPS YES, THE ULTIMATE SORT WITH OVER 1,000 OF THESE SOLD IN THE LAST 40 YEARS, A MUST FOR COLLECTOR/DEALER OR ANYONE WHO LIKES A GOOD SORT, INC COLLECTIONS, PACKETS, LOOSE STAMPS ON & OFF PAPER, ALSO MIXED COUNTRIES IN VARIOUS BOXES & STOCKBOOKS OF WORLD ETC A GOOD MIX INC GB, C/W & FOREIGN WITH STAMPS CAT £50+ 1,000s OF STAMPS A LOT UNCHECKED ETC WITH A RETAIL VALUE OF £1,300 AND WEIGHING APPROX 30 KILO SUPERB LOT HAVE YOU TRIED ONE YET FOR £999.00 PLUS £29.00 FOR DELIVERY BY DPD</p>
--	--

<p>REF T623 GREAT BRITAIN WOODEN HALF TEA CHEST CONTAINING COLLECTIONS, STOCKBOOKS, LOOSE PAGES STOCKCARDS, BOXES OF ON & OFF PAPER & LOOSE STAMPS, FROM QV TO MODERN INC 1840 1d BLACK, 1d REDS AND A GOOD SELECTION OF MINT & USED, ALL REIGNS, PLUS FDCs ETC, A GOOD LOT, VERY HIGH CAT, WITH TOP VALUES AND AUCTION LEFTOVERS CAT £50+ EACH, STATED TO RETAIL £800+ £599.50 PLUS £22.50 FOR DELIVERY BY DPD</p>	<p>REF T624 COMMONWEALTH WOODEN HALF TEA CHEST CONTAINING COLLECTIONS, STOCKBOOKS, LOOSE PAGES & STOCKSHEETS, FROM QV TO MODERN INC CAPE OF GOOD HOPE TRIANGULAR, ALSO BOXES OF UNSORTED MATERIAL, LOOSE STAMPS ON & OFF PAPER, COVERS & AUCTION LEFTOVERS CAT £50+ EACH, SETS & SINGLES, GOOD HIGH CAT LOT, STATED TO RETAIL £800+ £599.50 PLUS £22.50 FOR DELIVERY BY DPD</p>	<p>REF T626 FOREIGN WOODEN HALF TEA CHEST CONTAINING COLLECTIONS, STOCKBOOKS, LOOSE PAGES & STOCKSHEETS, ALSO BOXES OF UNSORTED MATERIAL, STAMPS LOOSE ON & OFF PAPER, & SINGLE STAMPS & AUCTION LEFTOVERS CAT £50+ EACH, GOOD HIGH CAT LOT, EARLY TO MODERN, STATED TO RETAIL £800+ £599.50 PLUS £22.50 FOR DELIVERY BY DPD</p>
---	---	--

<p>REF T627 THE WHOLE WORLD IN SUITCASE INCLUDING COLLECTIONS OF FOREIGN, COMMONWEALTH, CHANNEL ISLANDS, IOM & GREAT BRITAIN INC STOCKBOOKS, COLLECTIONS, ALBUM PAGES, FIRST DAY COVERS STAMPS ON AND OFF PAPER BOXES AND PACKETS OF UNSORTED MATERIAL. AUCTION LEFT-OVERS A GOOD SORT 1,000s FROM QV TO MODERN WITH STAMPS CAT £100+ STATED TO RETAIL £400 £299.50 PLUS £22.50 FOR DELIVERY BY DPD</p>	 <p>REF T607 ALL WORLD FUN BOX IN 1/2 BOX INCLUDING LOOSE STAMPS ON AND OFF PAPER PLUS CHILDREN COLLECTIONS, STOCKBOOKS OF WORLD ETC PLUS OTHER BITS, ALBUM PAGES, THE ODD COVER, EVERY BOX IS DIFFERENT (VIRTUALLY NO GB) 1,000s TO SORT £99.50 PLUS £14.00 FOR DELIVERY BY DPD</p>	 <p>REF T622 WORLD (NO GB) MYSTERY MIX INC PACKET OF 500 DIFFERENT OFF PAPER A PLASTIC ZIP UP BAG OF UNCHECKED WORLD ON & OFF PAPER AS RECEIVED FROM VARIOUS CHARITY, UNCHECKED WITH 700 GRAMS AND A PACKET OF 500 DIFFERENT OFF PAPER £27.50 PLUS £5.00 POSTAGE & INSURANCE</p>
---	---	---

OUR 'T' NUMBERS ARE ALWAYS AVAILABLE

MONTHLY POSTAL AUCTION

ON THE 2ND WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH CLOSING TIME FOR BIDS 5pm WEDNESDAY OF THE AUCTION
PLACE YOUR BIDS BY PHONE, POST, FAX OR E-MAIL

WRITE OR PHONE ON 01254 393740 OR E-MAIL: sales@ajhstamps.co.uk NOW FOR OUR FREE MONTHLY AUCTION CATALOGUE CONTAINING APPROX 700 LOTS, WITH CARTONS, COLLECTIONS, FOLDER ONE COUNTRY LOTS, PLUS GREAT BRITAIN, COMMONWEALTH SETS AND SINGLE ITEMS, PRICES FROM £24 TO £20,000 PER LOT.

NO BUYERS' PREMIUM - AUCTION LEFTOVERS ARE E-MAILED ON THURSDAY FOLLOWING THE AUCTION.

WE WILL RING YOU AT A PRE-ARRANGED TIME, PLEASE CONTACT US WITH YOUR LOT NUMBER/S AND YOUR CREDIT CARD DETAILS AND PHONE NO AND WE WILL RING YOU FROM 6.00pm ONWARDS.

AUCTION DATES FOR 2022

13th July, 10th Aug, 14th Sept, 12th Oct, 9th Nov, 14th Dec

WRITE PHONE OR FAX FOR OUR MONTHLY WHOLESALE/RETAIL SALE LIST WITH OVER 1,000 ITEMS, INCLUDING COMMONWEALTH A TO Z SINGLE STAMPS AND SETS MINT AND USED ALSO GREAT BRITAIN QV TO MODERN FROM HALF PRICE PLUS GREAT BRITAIN DEFINITIVES, SETS AND SINGLES, MINT AND USED AND 1840 QV TO 1936 G/F/USED, PLUS COLLECTIONS AND BOXES, AND A FURTHER RANGE OF 'T' NUMBERS

HAVE YOU CLICKED YET?

VISIT OUR ON-LINE AUCTION MANY LOTS
STARTING FROM AS LITTLE AS £1
WITH AUTOMATIC BID UPDATES

www.ajhstamps.co.uk

**DEALERS YOU
CAN TRUST
OVER 50
YEARS
EXPERIENCE**

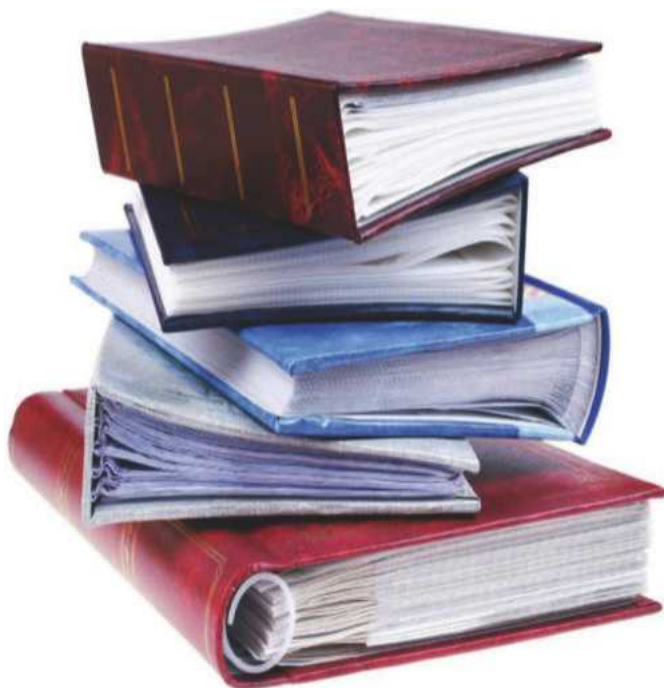
We welcome



WE BUY PRIVATE COLLECTIONS
& DEALER'S ENTIRE STOCK SMALL
OR VAST, WITH IMMEDIATE
PAYMENTS. RING NOW



scan with
your phone



For your philatelic insurance requirements, contact H W Wood Limited, the preferred insurance broker for stamp collectors and dealers Worldwide.

Whether you require insurance at home, at a business premises, at exhibition and/or in transit* give us a call, we have a range of flexible insurance plans that we consider are sure to offer you the coverage you need.

Telephone: + 44 (0) 20 7398 9000

E-mail: finearts@hwint.com

Visit us online at www.hwiuk.com

European based clients are looked after by HWI Europe, a branch of HWI France, based in the UK. Email: fineart@hwiEurope.com

H W Wood Limited is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA).

FCA register number 309408. For confirmation of our regulatory status please visit the FCA website www.fca.org.uk

HWI Europe, with the registered address of 1 Lloyds Avenue, London, EC3N 3DQ, is the trading name for HWI France in the UK.

Company Registration Number BR021326.

HWI France is registered with Orias and regulated in the UK by the Financial Conduct Authority, financial reference number 844245.

(*transit only cover not available, terms and conditions apply).



Michael
2013 World
Triathlon
Championships
London 1st British
athlete to finish

APPROVALS - THE BEST WAY TO BUY YOUR STAMPS

Enjoy the prospect of seeing some of the 1 million stamps that we stock. Unlike eBay, you have 15 days to dwell on your stamps with no immediacy to purchase. You can inspect both sides of the stamp. Many of our customers tell us that the quality of stamps on eBay does not meet expectation.

We attend Stamp Auctions every week of the year and so are able to select the finest quality, unlike Stamp Fair Dealers who are often not able to attend weekend auctions.

Over 40 years in trading has enabled us to become the premier Approval Dealership in Worldwide countries. We have a team of five experts, all of whom have 30 or more years experience of philately. We pride ourselves on excellent customer service and routinely receive praise from our hundreds of customers, many of whom have been with us for over 20 years. Please complete the coupon or phone or email for a trial mailing. My son and myself are on hand should you want to speak to us to support you with your hobby..



Nick, Age 55
Roxbourne
Cricket Club.
Record over
10,000 runs

EUROPE, LATIN AMERICA & C. ASIA

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ALBANIA | <input type="checkbox"/> ECUADOR | <input type="checkbox"/> IRAQ | <input type="checkbox"/> POLAND |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ARGENTINA | <input type="checkbox"/> EL SALVADOR | <input type="checkbox"/> ISRAEL | <input type="checkbox"/> PORTUGAL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> AUSTRIA | <input type="checkbox"/> ESTONIA | <input type="checkbox"/> ITALY | <input type="checkbox"/> RUMANIA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BELGIUM | <input type="checkbox"/> FINLAND | <input type="checkbox"/> LATVIA | <input type="checkbox"/> RUSSIA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BOLIVIA | <input type="checkbox"/> FRANCE | <input type="checkbox"/> LIECHTENSTEIN | <input type="checkbox"/> SERBIA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BOSNIA | <input type="checkbox"/> GERMANY | <input type="checkbox"/> LITHUANIA | <input type="checkbox"/> SPAIN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BRAZIL | <input type="checkbox"/> GREECE | <input type="checkbox"/> L'BOURG | <input type="checkbox"/> SWEDEN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BULGARIA | <input type="checkbox"/> GUATEMALA | <input type="checkbox"/> MEXICO | <input type="checkbox"/> SWITZERLAND |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CHILE | <input type="checkbox"/> HAITI | <input type="checkbox"/> MONTENEGRO | <input type="checkbox"/> TURKEY |
| <input type="checkbox"/> COLUMBIA | <input type="checkbox"/> HOLLAND | <input type="checkbox"/> NICARAGUA | <input type="checkbox"/> URUGUAY |
| <input type="checkbox"/> COSTA RICA | <input type="checkbox"/> HONDURAS | <input type="checkbox"/> NORWAY | <input type="checkbox"/> USA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CUBA | <input type="checkbox"/> HUNGARY | <input type="checkbox"/> PARAGUAY | <input type="checkbox"/> VENEZUELA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CZECH | <input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPNS | <input type="checkbox"/> PERSIA IRAN | <input type="checkbox"/> YUGOSLAVIA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DENMARK | <input type="checkbox"/> ICELAND | <input type="checkbox"/> PERU | |

Prefer: ☐ Mint ☐ Used ☐ Both
☐ Pre 1910 ☐ 1910-45 ☐ Post WW2

COMMONWEALTH

- | | | | |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ADEN&STATES | <input type="checkbox"/> COOK IS. | <input type="checkbox"/> K.U.T | <input type="checkbox"/> RHODESIA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ARAB PO'S | <input type="checkbox"/> CYPRUS | <input type="checkbox"/> KUWAIT | <input type="checkbox"/> SARAWAK |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ASCENSION | <input type="checkbox"/> DOMINICA | <input type="checkbox"/> LABUAN | <input type="checkbox"/> SEYCHELLES |
| <input type="checkbox"/> AUSTRALIA | <input type="checkbox"/> EGYPT | <input type="checkbox"/> LEEWARD IS. | <input type="checkbox"/> SINGAPORE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> AUST. STATES | <input type="checkbox"/> EIRE | <input type="checkbox"/> LEVANT PO | <input type="checkbox"/> S.LEONE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BAHAMAS | <input type="checkbox"/> FALKLANDS | <input type="checkbox"/> MALAYA | <input type="checkbox"/> S.AFRICA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BAHRAIN | <input type="checkbox"/> FIJI | <input type="checkbox"/> MALTA | <input type="checkbox"/> SW.AFRICA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BARBADOS | <input type="checkbox"/> GAMBIA | <input type="checkbox"/> MAURITIUS | <input type="checkbox"/> S.A.COLNS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BERMUDA | <input type="checkbox"/> GIBRALTAR | <input type="checkbox"/> N. BORNEO | <input type="checkbox"/> S.A.STATES |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BR. HOUNDURAS | <input type="checkbox"/> GOLD COAST | <input type="checkbox"/> N'FOUNDLAND | <input type="checkbox"/> ST.LUCIA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BRUNEI | <input type="checkbox"/> GT BRITAIN | <input type="checkbox"/> N.ZEALAND | <input type="checkbox"/> ST.VINCENT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BURMA | <input type="checkbox"/> HONG KONG | <input type="checkbox"/> NIGERIA | <input type="checkbox"/> SUDAN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CANADA | <input type="checkbox"/> INDIA | <input type="checkbox"/> NYASALAND | <input type="checkbox"/> TANGANYIKA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CAYMAN IS. | <input type="checkbox"/> INDIAN STATES | <input type="checkbox"/> PACIFIC IS. | <input type="checkbox"/> W.INDIES |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CEYLON | <input type="checkbox"/> ISLE OF MAN | <input type="checkbox"/> PAKISTAN | <input type="checkbox"/> ZANZIBAR |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CHANNEL IS. | <input type="checkbox"/> JAMAICA | <input type="checkbox"/> PAPUA | |



Michael G. Read



Poachers Retreat, Common Lane, Kings Langley, Herts, WD4 9HP
Phone: 01923 269775 – e-mail: mg.read@btinternet.com

Visit our new website www.michaelgread.co.uk



Est. 1975 - 47 Years of Care and Attention



Name:
Address:
.....
Postcode Tel SM

PHILATELIC QUIZ: GENERAL COLLECTORS...

Supply Your **Passion**, Control Your **Budget** – Naturally, **Collect** Stamps of The World!

Accept Your
World Mixtures
1st 500 Free Trial

Your 1st Trial
World Mix Bag
is supplied **FREE**,
simply Select the
Best– up to 500
stamps **FREE**, –
Return the Rest



TIME

TRAVEL

INEXPENSIVELY

UK COLLECTORS

Send No Money

ACT NOW

Contrary to what you might think, or have been told... You really don't have to spend a fortune to enjoy collecting stamps; read on to discover the reasons why ...

In the old days, you go to a stamp fair. Now, You order on-line. You bid in an auction – **almost always**, if you're buying 'identified' stamps, even cheap stamps, they're priced against catalogue value aren't they? Why do 'stampy' things have to be done this way?

One of the biggest problems when I collected stamps all those 48 years ago, (before girls came along), was that the stamps I wanted always seemed to cost more than I could afford! So ... just what is it that made me collect stamps in that way?

Q: What made me collect stamps that way? – A: Catalogue Values!

Yes, catalogue values... That's not to say that there's anything wrong with catalogue values per se. However, there is a simple answer, true even decades later, and even today. It was/ is the philatelic industry norm. **This is how 'philatelic' things are done ... aren't they?**

BUT, I set out to break boring industry norms, creating my enormously popular off-paper world mixtures club more than 34 years ago. Some who were collectors then, have returned and are still 'Avon/Omniphil' Collectors today. Some of those collectors have 'progressed' their collections, so that they now bid in my 'No Hidden Extras' unique reducing estimate (and reserve) Universal Philatelic Auctions – also known as **'The Collectors' Secret Weapon'**

Hindsight is a wonderful thing isn't it?, but...

with the benefit of hindsight, I suppose the problem was that I hadn't set my collecting boundaries to my budget, but it's so easy to say that now. Even so, why does everything you collect have to be related to catalogue value?

The simple answer is... **it Doesn't!**

Wouldn't You enjoy picking stamps at low unit prices regardless of catalogue value? Wouldn't You enjoy forgetting the prices? Wouldn't You enjoy the thrill of making a 'find' and paying pence to do so...? **Well, Now You Can.** If you're a real collector, not an investor, I'm putting the fun back

into philately so you can enjoy collecting how it used to be...

It's NOT a club, but it feels like one...

It's NOT a club where you, like me, may remember 'swapping stamps' but it **feels** like one, and in order for You to Test my Avon World/Country Mixtures I'm offering you the opportunity to select up to your 1st 500 stamps **free**, so You can see for Yourself how much fun there is to be had from the trial mixture bag we'll send you...

Send NO money Now: So where's the 'catch'?

Simply, If You don't like the idea of picking up to your 1st 500 stamps FREE and returning the rest, don't go to our website to request ... otherwise, join more than 10,000 different collectors who have enjoyed receiving more than 235,000 bags weekly over the past 34 years ... **Visit our website to Start Now**

Visit: www.UPAstampauctions.co.uk Go to Mixtures

Tewkesbury Fax: 01684 299278 – approvals@upastampauctions.co.uk – T: 01684 299278

Find UPA also on-line at www.top-uptwenty.co.uk • New Instant-Purchase Price-Drop Selling-System

SM 07/22

COURT PHILATELICS

We are also interested in buying any of your surplus stamps on or off paper for payment or exchange. Guaranteed full refund if not satisfied. Please E-Mail us if you would like to receive our special offer lists. Postage: UK customers pay no postage. Overseas, please add £4.00 / 1/4 lb, £6.00 / 1/2 lb, £8.00 / 1 lb and £4.00 for all collections ordered. We will use latest Commems including very rare high values!

OFF PAPER MIXTURES

FRANCE An amazing collection of over 500 different Commemoratives only from 2016 to 2021 all in complete sets!! List price £65.00.

JAPAN A very colourful off paper mixture of Commems only including many modern issues. Great variety. 2 oz £23.00, 1/4 lb £45.00.

BRITISH COMMONWEALTH A new mix for us of all Commems and Large only. A very colourful mixture with a great variety. 1/4 lb £30.00, 1/2 lb £62.00, 1 lb £120.00.

WEST EUROPE LARGE & COMMEMS ONLY A very colourful off paper mixtures with no GB. Includes Semi-Postals and High Values. 1/4 lb £35.00, 1/2 lb £68.00.

QUEEN VICTORIA – KING GEORGE VI COMMONWEALTH This one is a real gem and very rare. Off paper and therefore no soaking required. We were lucky enough to buy a retired dealer/collectors collection of albums and accumulations and was not sure what to do with it so have decided to treat you all by busting the whole lot into one off paper mixture. As we do not sell stamps individually or by catalogue value we have left that for you. Great interest for postmark collectors as many of them will be now obsolete, and great for watermark, shade and perf varieties. Majority being George V & VI but also contains Victoria and Edward. Limited supplies and once sold out will probably not be seen again. Around 2,000 stamps per 1/4 lb and must be a bargain at around 3p a stamp. 1/4 lb £65.00, 1/2 lb £125.00.

SPECIAL OFFER Buy 1 lb World, 1 lb British Commonwealth and 1 lb W. Europe Scoop for the discounted price of £133. List price £154.00.

WORLD SCOOP An Off paper mix scooped from our oddments tub. Emanating from Charities, Auctions, personal collections etc. You will find high Cat (please tell us when you do) & many additions for your collection. Each 1 lb lot is over 7000 stamps, costing around 1/2 p each. 1/2 lb £20.00, 1 lb £39.00, 4 lbs £15.00.

BRITISH COMMONWEALTH SCOOP Sold out over the last 8 months, we can now supply more of our popular Off paper mixture covering old Empire & modern Commonwealth. Several clients found stamps cataloguing £10 to £50 each. No promises but with at least 7,000 stamps/1lb you'll have great fun sorting. 1/2 lb £31.00, 1 lb £60.00.

WEST EUROPE SCOOP An Off paper mixture of small and large stamps with much earlier material. Many better and unusual values. In great demand as our interests in the EEC grow. Approx. 10,000 stamps to 1 lb costing around 1/2 p each. 1/2 lb £28.00, 1 lb £55.00.

COMMEMORATIVES & LARGE ONLY ON PAPER MIXTURES

Further discount, purchase 2 items and deduct 5%, 4 items deduct 10%

ALDERNEY 2 oz £25.00 **AUSTRALIA** 1/4 lb £22.00, 1/2 lb £40.00 **AUSTRALIA HIGH VALUES** 1/4 lb £36.00, 1/2 lb £70.00 **AUSTRIA** 1/4 lb £35.00, 1/2 lb £68.00. **BELGIUM** 1/4 lb £25.00, 1/2 lb £48.00 **BOTSWANA** 1/4 lb £18.00, 1/2 lb £35.00 **CANADA** 1/4 lb £40.00, 1/2 lb £70.00. **CYPRUS** 1/4 lb £30.00, 1/2 lb £58.00 **ESTONIA** 2 oz £33.00. **FAROE** 2 oz £42.00, 1/4 lb £78.00. **FINLAND** 1/4 lb £20.00, 1/2 lb £39.00. **FRANCE** 1/4 lb £23.00, 1/2 lb £42.00. **FRENCH AFRICA** 1/4 lb £47.00, 1/2 lb £90.00 **GERMANY** 1/4 lb £16.00, 1/2 lb £30.00 **GERMANY HIGH VALUE COMMEMS** 1/4 lb £28.00, 1/2 lb £55.00 **GERMANY SEMI-POSTALS** 1/4 lb £22.00, 1/2 lb £40.00 **GREECE** 1/4 lb £31.00, 1/2 lb £60.00 **GUERNSEY** 1/4 lb £17.00, 1/2 lb £33.00 **IRELAND** 1/4 lb £32.00, 1/2 lb £60.00 **ISLE OF MAN** 1/4 lb £17.00, 1/2 lb £33.00 **ITALY** 2 oz £26.00, 1/4 lb £50.00 **JAPAN** 1/4 lb £22.00, 1/2 lb £41.00 **JERSEY** 1/4 lb £17.00, 1/2 lb £33.00 **LATVIA** 2 oz £33.00 **LIECHTENSTEIN** 2 oz £43.00, 1/4 lb £85.00 **MALTA** 1/2 lb £16.00, 1 lb £30.00 **MAURITIUS** 1/4 lb £30.00, 1/2 lb £58.00 **NORWAY** 1/4 lb £23, 1/2 lb £45.00 **SOUTH AFRICA** 1/4 lb £18.00, 1/2 lb £34.00 **SOUTH AFRICA HOMELANDS** 1/4 lb £22.00, 1/2 lb £40.00 **SPAIN** 1/4 lb £23.00, 1/2 lb £44.00 **SWEDEN** 1/4 lb £23.00, 1/2 lb £45.00 **THAILAND** 1/4 lb £23.00, 1/2 lb £45.00. **TURKEY** 1/4 lb £26 **U.S.A.** 1/2 lb £25.00, 1 lb £48.00.

COURT PHILATELICS

Dept SM, P.O. Box 6198, Leighton Buzzard, Beds LU7 9XT.
TEL: 01296 662420 • E-mail: courtphilatelics@aol.com

Payment: We accept cheque, postal orders and all major credit & debit cards. Paypal payments can be made to courtphilatelics@aol.com or you can pay direct into our bank: Co-Operative, A/C no. 69958274, sort code 08-92-99. NO MINIMUM ORDER.

KG V

BRITISH COMMONWEALTH



ASK NOW FOR YOUR COPY
OF OUR COMPLETE KG V LIST FOR 2022

A FAMILY RUN BUSINESS
EST. OVER 45 YEARS!

ROWLAND HILL STAMPS



Hill House, Cookley,
Kidderminster, DY10 3UW

01562 851101

sales@rowlandhillstamps.co.uk

www.rowlandhillstamps.co.uk



ALL WORLD POSTAL AUCTIONS



Fine & Rare Mexico

Specialising in Latin America & British Commonwealth

WE RUN REGULAR ALL WORLD POSTAL AUCTIONS
SPECIALISING IN BRITISH COMMONWEALTH & LATIN
AMERICA. EACH SALE INCLUDES STAMPS, POSTMARKS,
POSTAL HISTORY, POSTAL STATIONERY, PROOFS, REVENUES &
CINDERELLA.

WRITE OR EMAIL FOR OUR FREE CATALOGUE

EMAIL: latamphil@btinternet.com

LATIN AMERICAN PHILATELICS

P. O. Box 56194, LONDON, E17 0GF, GREAT BRITAIN

Delayed reaction

British Guiana's pictorial commemoratives of 1898 were some of the earliest in the entire British Empire, but they were late for Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee

■ Report by John Winchester

A handful of British colonies issued stamps to mark Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee in 1897. Canada led the way, followed by Barbados, Mauritius and British Guiana.

Having issued nothing other than designs based on its colonial badge (featuring a frigate) since 1852, British Guiana was keen to offer something different. Timing seemed less important, however, and it was not until the celebrations of June 1897 were over that the Colonial Secretary wrote to the Crown Agents outlining proposals.

Five denominations were required, and these were to be pictorial designs, which was an unusual request for the time.

A selection of four photographs were attached, of striking locations in the colony. The two which were considered most suitable were to be used to cover all five values.

Those selected were of Mount Roraima, a table-top mountain with sheer 400m cliffs on all sides, and the Kaieteur Falls on the Potaro River, which are twice as high as the Victoria Falls.

The printers, De La Rue, produced essays for horizontal (1c, 5c and 15c) and vertical (2c and 10c) designs, respectively, to be recess-printed in two colours.

The two-stage printing process would require the paper to be moistened twice, which meant it had to be 25% thicker than normal.

The Diamond Jubilee year slipped away as delays blighted the preparations, making a nonsense of



ABOVE: British Guiana 1898 Diamond Jubilee 15c red-brown and blue, illustrating Mount Roraima

RIGHT: The 2c brown and blue, illustrating Kaieteur Falls



the '1897' inscriptions.

The selection of colours seemed interminable, a roller cracked during the hardening process, and a piece of grit badly scratched the plate for the 1c value after printing got underway. A second 1c plate was prepared, and stamps printed from this have stronger shading on the mountain but a lighter sky.

Extra costs resulted in the print run being extended from 500,000 of each value to 750,000, for economies of scale.

The stamps did not go on sale until July 18, 1898, more than a year after the jubilee festivities. But at least they offered plenty of interest for collectors.

Most values can be found with the Large Crown CC watermark inverted or reversed, and the 2c brown and indigo exists with the shade variety of brown and blue.

The 2c and 5c occur in horizontal pairs, imperforate between.

Sales of the two lowest values, covering the inter-city and local letter rates, were brisk. By the end of the year, there were almost none left at any post office.

The three higher denominations initially saw much less use, but following the introduction of the Imperial Penny Post in December they were given a new purpose, surcharged 2c in February 1899 to cover the ½oz letter rate to most of the British Empire.

Applied locally, at the printing office of the *Daily Chronicle* newspaper, these surcharges exist with a wild array of varieties. ■

MARKET VALUES

The set of five is catalogued at £130 mint or £65 used. The 1899 surcharges come in at only £13 mint, but many of the varieties are expensive.



Buying British Stamps


Current Market Values

BUYING & SELLING DISCOUNTED GB POSTAGE DAILY



BUYING GB DECIMAL MINT STAMPS 1971 to 2022

(We always require GB postage but some values are more popular than others so please contact us by email or telephone where the sale value is £2000 or over).

CATEGORY	Buy % of FV	CATEGORY	Buy % of FV
New Royal Mail Barcode Stamps 	1st Class - 62% 1st Class Large - 68% 2nd Class and 2nd Large Letter - 72% Fixed Values 1p to 50p - 55% Fixed Values £1 to £5 - 68%	Definitive and Regional Stamps 1p to £10 including all 1st class and 2nd class stamps. (e.g. all stamps from 1971 to date which will not be valid for postal use after 31st January 2023)	We pay 45% Face Value Sorted by value and segregated into clear bags each containing just 50 stamps. NO Commemoratives or Christmas Stamps
Commemorative and Christmas Stamps Sorted by value in bags of 100 stamps (smaller amounts accepted)	1st Class Stamps - 50% (all types) 2nd Class Stamps - 65% (all types) 1p to 44p - 45% 45p to 97p - 47% £1 to £3 - 55%	Post & Go & Commemorative 'E' European and Worldwide stamps These will remain valid for postal use after 31st January 2023	Up to 10g, 20g, 40g, 60g and 100g We pay 80p per stamp.
Commemorative and Christmas Stamps Made up in mixed bags containing £50 or £100 face value	We pay 47% face value Must include a wide range of different values.	Presentation Packs, Year Books and all Booklets	We pay 50% face value.

"We buy Gold for cash"
Call for a quote



www.philatelink.co.uk



4 May 2022

Email: philatelink@btinternet.com
LANDLINE: 01896 759703 MOBILE: 07510 312271

DAVID WALDIE (PHILATELINK LTD),
13 REDPATH CRESCENT, GALASHIELS,
BORDERS, TD1 2QG, UK.

eBay Selling Service
High Prices Realised! • Low Commission Fees
Contact Dave Waldie for Details or Visit



STAMPEX[®]

INTERNATIONAL

BUY | SELL | LEARN | EXPLORE | CONNECT | SHOWCASE

28 SEP TO 01 OCT

FIND OUT MORE AT:

WWW.STAMPEXINTERNATIONAL.COM

LIVE EVENT AT THE BUSINESS DESIGN CENTRE

52 Upper St, The Angel, London N1 0QH



PRESENTED BY
THE Philatelic Traders' SOCIETY LTD
#lookfortheshield



SPONSORED BY

SPINK
WHERE HISTORY IS VALUED





www.robstine-stamps.com
www.robstineextra.com



Two great web sites for fine used stamps!



EUROPE		COMMONWEALTH				REST OF WORLD	
Albania	Italy	Aden	Antigua	Ceylon	KUT	St Helena	Algeria
Austria	Latvia	Ascension	Channel	Islands	Kuwait	St Kitts-Nevis	Belgian Congo
Belgium	Liechtenstein	Australia	Bahamas	Christmas Island	Labuan	St Lucia	Brazil
Bulgaria	Lithuania	Bahrain	Barbados	Cocos Islands	Leeward Islands	St Vincent	Egypt
Denmark	Luxembourg	Basutoland	Basutoland	Cook Islands	Malaya	Samoa	French Colonies
Estonia	Monaco	Bechuanaland	Bermuda	Cyprus	Malta	Sarawak	Honduras
Faroes	Netherlands	British Antarctic Dependencies	British Guiana	Dominica	Mauritius	Seychelles	Italian Colonies
France	Norway	British Honduras	British Honduras	Falklands/Dependencies	Montserrat	Sierra Leone	Japan
German States	Poland	British Levant	Ghana	Fiji	Morocco Agencies	Singapore	Korea North
Germany	Portugal	Ex Italian Colonies	Gibraltar	Gambia	New Guinea	Somalia	Lebanon
German Zones	Romania	British Solomons	Gilbert + Ellice	Gold Coast	New Hebrides	South Africa	Morocco
West Germany	Russia	British Virgins	Grenada	Great Britain	New Zealand	Southern Rhodesia	Netherlands Colonies
West Berlin	Spain	Brunei	Hong Kong	Grenada	Norfolk Island	South West Africa	Portuguese Colonies
DDR	Sweden	Burma	India + States	Guinea	North Borneo	Sudan	Somalia
Greenland	Switzerland	Canada	Isle of Man	Pitcairn	Northern Rhodesia	Swaziland	Thailand
Hungary	Vatican	Caymans	Jamaica	Rhodesia	Nyasaland	Tonga	Tunisia
Iceland	Yugoslavia				Pakistan	Trinidad + Tobago	USA
					Papua + New Guinea	Tristan da Cunha	Venezuela
					Pitcairn	Turks + Caicos	Yemen
					Rhodesia	Zanzibar	

Trading in stamps since 1982, I have been known especially for fine used European material. Now, my range of Commonwealth stamps is equally strong from QV to QE2. Go to either web site to see what I can offer or fill in the attached coupon to receive more information.

Robstine Stamps

P O Box 129
Bordon
Hants
GU35 8YD

EXCELLENT QUALITY * PROMPT SERVICE

Please send me

The Commonwealth booklet ☐

The Europe and Worldwide booklet ☐

I am happy to receive further details
related to my collecting interests ☐

Name

Address

Postcode

Big fangs coming in small packages

Despite the stigma surrounding venomous snakes, they have been celebrated on stamps from many countries. It's a theme you can really sink your teeth into

■ Report by Steven Allain

Despite the fact that snakes are deeply entrenched in human cultures around the world, from the talking serpent in the Bible to the rainbow serpent in Aboriginal mythology, they are also amongst the most maligned groups of animals.

The main reason they are portrayed negatively is that some are venomous, causing many of us to fear them.

In truth, of the 4,000 known species of snakes, only about 600 are venomous, and only about 200 of these are capable of causing death or serious injury. Not every venomous snake species poses a threat to human life.

Nevertheless, an estimated 2.7 million people around the world are bitten by venomous snakes each year, of whom approximately 100,000 die.

A number of countries around the world have featured venomous snakes on their stamps, especially where endemic species are considered iconic.



ABOVE: Rwanda stamp issued in 1975 depicting the legendary black mamba, the most feared venomous snake in sub-Saharan Africa

DEADLY DOSES

There is no single taxonomic group of snakes that are venomous; it is a trait that is shared among a number of unrelated groups.

Venom has evolved through 'convergent evolution', a process where distantly related species evolve similar traits.

There are three main types of snake venom:

- Cytotoxic venoms kill tissue and cause necrosis (death of body tissue);
- Haemotoxic venoms destroy red blood cells or disrupt the formation of blood clots;
- Neurotoxic venoms affect the nervous system.

Adders

The only venomous snake found in Britain is the adder, *Vipera berus*, and it is in decline in most regions, due to climate change, habitat loss and persecution.

In a decade's time, adders may be gone from most of the countryside, except in their strongholds or areas where strict conservation efforts have been undertaken.

As a species, however, the adder is one of the most adaptable and widespread, occurring from Iberia to the far east of Russia.

It is even found within the Arctic Circle, thanks to its ability to incubate eggs internally rather than laying them in a nest, keeping them at a constant temperature

before giving birth to live young.

Adders have not yet been featured on any stamp released by Royal Mail, but have appeared on the stamps of many other Eurasian countries.

Eurasian vipers

Adders belong to the viper family, of which there are around 375 species, all of them venomous. They can be distinguished from other venomous snakes by their hinged fangs, which they fling forward before striking.

Another species found in Europe is the horned viper, *Vipera ammodytes*, which sports a distinctive horn on its nose.

It has a reputation for being the



ABOVE: European venomous snakes include the adaptable adder, illustrated by Liechtenstein in 1974, and the distinctive horned viper, featured by Albania in 1966

'Vipers, such as the adder, have hinged fangs, which they fling forward before striking at prey'

most dangerous snake in Europe, although deaths from its bites are infrequent, as treatment is widely available. This species has been depicted on stamps from a range of European countries.

Arid areas of Eurasia, from Afghanistan to Mongolia, are home to the Siberian pit viper, *Gloydius halys*, so-called because it is one of a group of snakes which use infrared-sensing pit organs on their upper lip to locate their prey.

As with many venomous snakes, surprisingly little is known about the effects of envenomation by this species, highlighting the need for more research.

The same can be said of the Tibetan bamboo pit viper, *Trimeresurus tibetanus*, which occurs in Tibet and Nepal. This is one of a number of Asian vipers which are a conspicuous green colour.

South Asian vipers

Russell's viper, *Daboia russelii*, accounts for 43% of all snakebites in India, and is therefore the most prominent member of the so-called 'big four', the species responsible for the greatest number of medically significant bites on the subcontinent.

Envenomation can have devastating impacts in areas where medical treatment is hard to access; not all bites are fatal, but most leave



ABOVE: Siberian pit viper, shown by Kazakhstan in 1994

ABOVE: Tibetan bamboo pit viper, shown by Nepal in 1998

ABOVE: Russell's viper, shown by Pakistan in 1995

ABOVE: Malayan pit viper, shown by Thailand in 1981

the victim with injuries which restrict their ability to work, and to care for their families.

Elsewhere in Asia, the Malayan pit viper, *Calloselasma rhodostoma*, is known for being bad-tempered and quick to strike when provoked. In northern Malaysia it is responsible for around 700 incidents a year, with a mortality rate of 2%.

American rattlesnakes

Potentially deadly vipers may also be found in North America, in the form of rattlesnakes.

One of the largest is the western diamondback rattlesnake, *Crotalus atrox*, which lives in the southern USA and northern Mexico. Its

VIRTUES OF VENOM

Although venomous snakes can be a danger to humans, they can also prove useful in a number of ways.

They are a sign of a healthy ecosystem, and they prey on species which we often view as pests, such as rats. This helps to reduce the instances of disease that those animals might pass on to people.

In a world where our antibiotics are starting to fail, venoms (which are a complex cocktail of proteins, salts and other molecules) offer real promise for helping us to create new drugs to stop infections, and perhaps even eventually to cure cancer.

VENOMOUS SNAKES



venom affects the blood, blood vessels and the heart, and is usually fatal, unless immediate medical treatment is administered.

Given the large number of rattlesnake species found across the Americas, it is surprising that they have only featured on the stamps of a handful of countries.

African vipers

Vipers can also be found throughout Africa, among them the infamous Gaboon viper, *Bitis gabonica*. This has the largest fangs of any snake, up to 5cm (2in) long, and the largest venom yield from a single bite.

It has one of the most complex

ABOVE: An American relative of the viper is the western diamondback rattlesnake, illustrated hunting for rodents by the United States 1999



ABOVE: The black-necked spitting cobra, illustrated in 1976 by the French Territory of the Afars & Issas



ABOVE: The Cape cobra, illustrated in 2000 by Sierra Leone



ABOVE: The cobra-like swamp-dwelling rinkhals, illustrated on a Lesotho stamp issued in 1979

camouflage patterns of any snake, blending seamlessly into leaf litter, where it waits to ambush prey. It tends to be reluctant to bite people, unless it is provoked, or inadvertently stepped on...

Found across western and northern Africa is the relatively small and innocuous white-bellied

carpet viper, *Echis leucogaster*. It doesn't come into conflict with people very often, although another member of its genus, the saw-scaled viper, is another member of India's 'big four'.

Local people regard the colourful Ethiopian mountain adder, *Bitis parviocula*, as an extremely venomous species, although there are few written records of bites, and in the best documented case the victim survived.

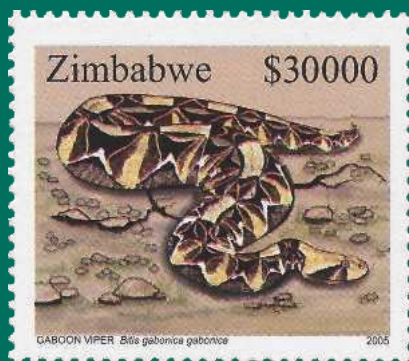
Relatively new to science, this species is on the Red List drawn up by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), which means it is likely to become extinct in its native range without human intervention.

Cobras and rinkhals

Another group of venomous snakes are the elapids, characterised by the permanently erect fangs which sit at the front of the mouth. The best known are the cobras, famous for their upright pose and flattened neck.

The black-necked spitting cobra, *Naja nigricollis*, found across most of sub-Saharan Africa, is able to spit venom from its fangs, hitting targets over 7m (23ft) away. This can cause permanent blindness if it makes contact with eyes.

The Cape cobra, *Naja nivea*, is restricted to southern Africa, and regarded as one of the most dangerous of African snakes. Its



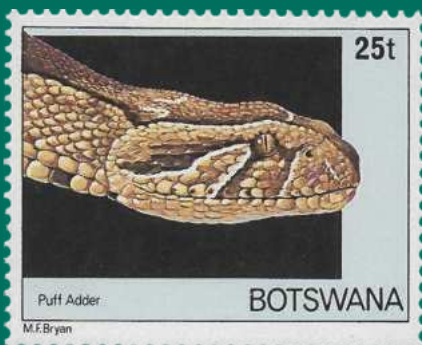
ABOVE: Gaboon viper, on a Zimbabwe stamp of 2005



ABOVE: White-bellied carpet viper, from Burkina Faso in 1972



ABOVE: Ethiopian mountain adder, on a 2016 Ethiopia stamp



ABOVE: Puff adder, on a Botswana design of 1980

'Elapids, such as the black mamba, have permanently erect fangs which sit at the front of the mouth'

venom is potent and it frequently enters houses, which leads to high human mortality rates from bites.

The largest venomous snake of all is the king cobra, *Ophiophagus hannah*, of south-east Asia which can grow to lengths of 5m (16ft). Unlike most snakes, it will feed on

other snake species.

Another elapid which looks very similar to a cobra is the rinkhals, *Hemachatus haemachatus*, of South Africa. Usually found in swamps, where it feeds primarily on toads, it will spray venom at a potential threat, aiming for the target's face.

THEORIES OF EVOLUTION

Have you ever wondered why snakes have no legs? There are two main hypotheses as to how snakes evolved from limbed species of lizard, losing their legs in the process.

The first is that they adapted to live underground, and this adaptation helped them move through the soil more easily.

An example of a venomous subterranean snake is the bolo, *Ogmodon vitianus*, which is endemic to the island of Viti Levu in Fiji.

The second is that they evolved from ancestors that lived in the ocean, and benefited from being more streamlined.

Fully aquatic snakes inhabit the tropical waters in the Indian Ocean and the Western Pacific, and a venomous example is the yellow-lipped sea krait, *Laticauda colubrina*, which has a paddle-like tail to help propel it through the water.



ABOVE: Fiji stamp of 1986 illustrating the bolo



ABOVE: New Caledonia stamp of 1983 illustrating the yellow-lipped sea krait

RIGHT: The semi-aquatic Malayan krait, illustrated on a Malaysia stamp of 2002, can be deadly to fishermen retrieving their nets or traps



Tropical elapids

Two very different elapid species found in the Tropics have a deadly reputation.

The Malayan krait, *Bungarus candidus*, is a semi-aquatic species found in south-east Asia, with a striking pattern of black and white bands. It is sometimes encountered by fishermen retrieving their nets or traps, and the mortality rate from its bite, if left untreated, can be as high as 70%.

In sub-Saharan Africa resides one of the most feared snakes of all, ▷



ABOVE: MacClelland's coral snake, on a stamp from Vietnam in 1970



ABOVE: Common capuchin coral snake, shown by Venezuela in 1972



ABOVE: The yellow-faced whip snake, illustrated by Australia in 1982, is not usually a big danger to humans



ABOVE: The eastern brown snake, illustrated by Australia in 2006, is the second most venomous in the world

the black mamba, *Dendroaspis polylepis*. Grey in colour (its name comes from the its jet-black mouth), it can reach lengths of 2m (6ft 6in) or more, making it the second-longest venomous snake, and it can move at speeds up to 10mph.

It lives in a wide range of habitats, which can bring it into contact with humans, but today's effective anti-venoms mean that most bites are not lethal.

Coral snakes

A spectacular group of elapids are coral snakes, which have evolved

with coloured bands to warn potential predators that they are venomous.

One example is MacClelland's coral snake, *Sinomicrurus macclellandi*, which occurs throughout southern and eastern Asia. Another is the common capuchin coral snake, *Micrurus dumerilii*, of South America.

Conspicuously 'advertising' toxicity is known as aposematism. Aposematic species often use similar colours and patterns, which explains why most coral snakes resemble each other (and also why venomous insects such as wasps, hoverflies and bees look similar).

Australian elapids

The country best known for its venomous snakes is probably Australia, and some of its elapids have been featured on its stamps.

The yellow-faced whip snake, *Demansia psammophis*, is a fast-moving species found in every state except Tasmania. The venom is not regarded as dangerous to human adults, with symptoms varying from localised pain to temporary paralysis.

At the other end of the spectrum is the eastern brown snake, *Pseudonaja textilis*, the second most venomous in the world.

It is found throughout eastern Australia, where it often comes into conflict with people. With its venom being both haemotoxic and neurotoxic, death usually results from cardiac arrest, sometimes within half an hour of being bitten.

'Colubrids, such as the boomslang, have their fangs positioned towards the rear of their mouths'

Colubrids

The final family of snakes which include venomous species are the colubrids, distinctive for the way their fangs are positioned further back in their mouths.

Notoriously dangerous is the boomslang, *Dispholidus typus*, a well-camouflaged tree-living species of southern Africa. It can open its jaws up to an angle of 170°, maximising the likelihood of those 'rear' fangs sinking into flesh, and its venom, although slow-acting, is potent.

Native to South America is the green racer, *Philodryas olfersii*, whose venom is comparatively mild, causing swelling and bruising but few deaths. Nevertheless, bites occur frequently enough to be a major concern to Brazilian health officials.

A strikingly beautiful colubrid is the mangrove snake, *Boiga dendrophila*, of south-east Asia, which is black with gold bands. Although it is venomous, there are no recorded human deaths attributed to it.

Appreciating snakes

A number of snake species are facing the threat of extinction, thanks to habitat loss, persecution and in some cases overharvesting (collection for the pet trade or for food).

July 16 is designated World Snake Day, raising awareness of these fascinating and beautiful yet misunderstood creatures and trying to reduce the stigma surrounding them.

Philately can play a part in this, as countries show national pride in their endemic species by featuring them on their stamps. Snakes often make for colourful and visually striking designs. ■



ABOVE: Boomslang, shown by Namibia in 2014



ABOVE: Green racer, illustrated by Uruguay in 2001



ABOVE: Mangrove snake, shown by Laos in 1986

GERMANY !

"Classics to III Reich and on to 1960?" - Whatever aspect of German philately interests you, after more than 50 years of dealing, chances are I have what you need, and my prices are "old-time" prices. So, please contact me, I'm here to help.

These lists are ideal for filling your gaps in a serious collection of older stamp issues.

Each Germany list contains a nearly complete run of stamps of the period listed.

Dual Gibbons and Michel listing.

Definitives are offered singly, and commemoratives in sets, all with prices for u/m, mounted mint light hinge, and fine used. Also a varied range of unusual single items, such as classics, varieties, proofs, postmark material, essays, revenues, locals, telegraphs, and much postal history from prestamp to inflation, special flights, Zepps, concentration camp mail, etc! Printed lists. All in colour!



Part 1 : German States
Part 2 : Reich 1872-1918 + Cols.
Part 3 : Plebiscites & Weimar
Part 4 : III Reich & WWII
Part 5 : Postwar to 1960



Far-reaching stock, probably the largest in the UK - and always changing, always replenishing. I can supply most needs. Friendly post-free service, and famously affordable prices.

Just phone me, email me, or ask for lists by mail :->

SELECTION FROM STOCK

SG	GERMANY III REICH COMMEMS	U/M	MM	Used
365/68	1924 St Elisabeth	£85	£25	£35
417/20	1927 Hindenburg	£50	£15	£20
421/23	1927 I.A.A. Labour Office overprints	£125	£40	£50
444	1928 2M Zeppelin	£175	£40	£25
445	1928 4M Zeppelin	£75	£25	£20
469/71	1931 Polar Flight Zeppelins	-	£500	-
513/21	1933 Welfare Wagner	-	£175	£135
526/36	1934 Airs & Count Zeppelin	£350	£55	£25
551/59	1934 Welfare Workers	-	£60	£65
585/95	1935 Welfare Costumes	£100	£25	£25
606/13	1936 Summer Olympics	£70	£15	£10
MD613a	1936 Olympics the two min sheets	£75	-	£50
MS637	1937 Hitler rouletted min sheet	£135	£25	£40
MS638	1937 Hitler overprinted min sheet	£140	£40	£35
MS 637a	1937 Horse (Brown Ribbon) ovpt min sheet	£100	£35	£50
897/98	1945 SA & SS (used are cto)	£35	£25	£45

Virtually all III Reich issues available, ask for our list.

SAAR

16	1920 80pf Germania ovpt	£300	£185	£175
28	1920 2M Bvaria ovpt	-	£70	£85
68	1921 5M Factories top value	£50	£35	£50
135/41	1929 Charity set	£100	£50	-
252/56	1948 Floods	£35	£25	-
MS255a	1948 Floods min sheet (air)	£350	£250	-
262/63	1949 Horse Day	£20	£15	£35
81/85	1949 Relief Fund (Art)	£60	£40	-
288	1950 Stamp Day (Stage Coach)	£45	£30	£60
294/95	1950 Council of Europe	£120	£75	£135
296/00	1950 National Relief (History)	£30	£20	£100

WWII BELGIUM LEGION (Michel numbers)

IX/XIV	1943 Royalty	-	£40	£200
--------	--------------------	---	-----	------

WEST GERMANY

1033/34	1949 Parliament	£75	£50	£25
1035/37	1949 Stamp Centenary	£85	£55	£75
1039/42	1949 Relief Fund	£85	£55	£75
1043/44	1950 Bach	£100	£65	£65
1045/60	1951 Posthorns	-	£950	£20
1065/66	1951 Lubeck Church	£150	£100	£85

FILL THOSE GAPS ! ALL PRICES ABOVE ARE POST FREE !

Thousands more on our lists, from Classics to 1959, prices from 10p upwards, all fine quality (German standards!) (Minimum order £20)

AUSTRIA TOO : Empire + Republic to 1960 - Enquire!



COLLECTIONS

Each month we clear one-country collections, mainly Europe & Cols, Commonwealth plus some foreign, some lots are on leaves, and some in albums like Schaubek, Lindner or Safe, mostly in the price range £20 to £500+.
All very reasonably priced !!!
Aden, Austria, through to Yugoslavia, Zanzibar etc - and **including plenty of Germany**.
The same format, monthly, for 45 years.
Lots sell fast every month -
what finer recommendation? Request our list!

SPECIALIST SAMPLES



025351 : Bavaria 1862 18k (SG32)
large margins. nice cancel £90.00



026562 : Danzig Polish P.O. 1926
10g DOUBLE ovpt, used £50.00



026198 : Afrika Korps Tunis label
unmounted mint £270.00



026680 : KGVI & Stalin propaganda
forgery, unused .. £105.00

www.stampsofgermany.com

Thousands of items! Order on-line.

John BARÈFOOT

P O Box 873, YORK YO31 6GL phone 01904 400648

e-mail JBarefootL@AOL.com / website : www.stampsofgermany.com



PHILANGLIA 2022

SATURDAY 2nd JULY

TO BE HELD AT THE
BURGESS HALL, WESTWOOD ROAD
ST IVES, CAMBRIDGESHIRE, PE27 6WU

With over 25 Local and National dealers
this is one of the largest Stamp Fairs in East Anglia
Supported by local Clubs and National Societies

10am - 3.30pm

FREE ADMISSION
BUY SELL EXCHANGE
EASY TO FIND LOCATION, EASY PARKING, REFRESHMENTS

**ORGANISED BY
ARUN STAMPS**

P.O.BOX 15, FAKENHAM, NORFOLK, NR21 0EU

Tel: 01328 829318 Mob: 07881812523 www.arunstamps.co.uk

cddstamps.com



Offering over 35,000
Great Britain and British
Commonwealth listings
with Scott and SG
catalogue references

We don't just sell stamps, we give you
confidence when buying from us. We are
a Member of the IPDA - Internet Philatelic
Dealers Association - Buy with Confidence



cddstamps.com
commemorative definitive decimal stamps

ALL WORLD NEW ISSUES

COUNTRY OR THEME

FREE MONTHLY LISTS

**STANDING ORDER
SERVICE AVAILABLE**

IAN OLIVER

**5 BEECH ROAD STIBB CROSS
TORRINGTON DEVON EX38 8HZ**

**TEL: 07941 39 14 66
FAX: 01805 601111**

E-MAIL: iansnewstamps@gmail.com

NEW ZEALAND'S LEADING AUCTION HOUSE

1. Your money goes further because of New Zealand's favourable exchange rate.
2. Catalogues are online, and mailed to you each month free!
3. Each catalogue contains stamps from all around the world.
4. No buyers' commission charges.
5. Lots are fully described with an estimate and prices realised are sent to all bidders after each sale.
6. Each lot is unconditionally guaranteed by New Zealand's leading auction house.

Join our mailing list!



MOWBRAY COLLECTABLES



Private Bag 63000, Wellington 6140, New Zealand
Ph +64 6 364 8270, Fax, +64 6 364 8252
Email auctions@mowbrays.co.nz

www.mowbrays.co.nz

THE PHILATELIC REGISTER

For those with an interest in ANY and ALL matters philatelic.

An Innovative **FREE** Resource

A miscellany of:

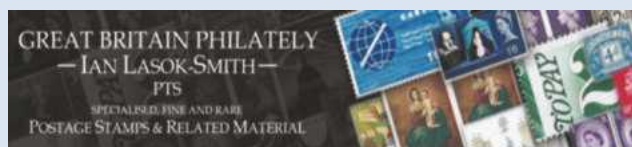
Opinion, Informed Comment, Light Hearted Musings, articles with Historical, Cultural and Academic interest, Nostalgia, Current Philatelic Affairs, the most up to date auction catalogues and retail lists from the trade .

Delivered on 1st Monday of month in pdf

FREE to Subscribers

To join subscriber list

Email PhilatelicRegister@gmail.com

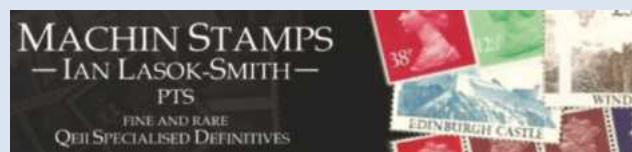


GBPhilately.co.uk

Comprehensive listings of Missing Phosphor, Missing Embossing, Missing Phosphor & Embossing and Inverted Watermark Varieties along with a range of selected and more eye catching items.



1967 Paintings 9d. Fine unmounted mint single with large SHIFT OF BLACK to right. Results in transposition of Queen's head and value.



MachinStamps.co.uk

Listing selected items of interest to the more specialist collectors of the Machin issues. Gum & paper variations, head & value types, phosphor types, scarcer printings in all formats e.g sheet, booklet..... errors and varieties and more unusual Machin related material will feature.



13p chestnut FCP/PVAD pane of 6 **MISSING PHOSPHOR.**
Ex £4 Christian Heritage.

IAN LASOK-SMITH (PHILATELIST) PTS, IPDA. ian.lasoksmith@gmail.com

A tight squeeze

The single stamp noting the 46th Inter-Parliamentary Union Conference in 1957 was one of Britain's strangest issues, a commemorative in definitive's clothing

■ Report by Peter Marren

We have long become used to stamp issues aimed squarely at maximising sales by targeting popular themes, often with a set of 10 or 12 colourful in-your-face designs.

So what would we make today of a single monochrome stamp, hurriedly modified from an existing definitive design, to commemorate the 46th Inter-Parliamentary Union Conference?

Would we have even heard of the event? If we had, would we care about it? If we did, would we be impressed by the stamp?

That seems unlikely. The modest little 4d value that slipped into the nation's post offices in September 1957 has been described as the most pointless and inept stamp design Britain has ever issued.

Perhaps that is why some of us love it so much!

The Inter-Parliamentary Union is an international body founded in 1889 in Paris, and dedicated to 'peace, democracy and sustainable development'. It still meets, and held its 143rd annual conference in Madrid in November 2021, but with no great fanfare.

Back in 1957 London was hosting the conference, at Church House in Westminster, and the chair of the British delegation, Malcolm Stoddart-Scott MP, lobbied hard for

RIGHT: The 1957 Inter-Parliamentary Union Conference 4d stamp was a commemorative hastily adapted from a definitive



a stamp to mark the occasion.

It would add prestige to the event, he said, and he had precedents to draw on. Finland, for instance, had issued a stamp when it was the host in 1955.

The Post Office was not keen to oblige. Having happily allowed four years to elapse since issuing its previous set of commemorative stamps, but with the Jubilee Jamboree set planned for August 1957, it was reluctant to produce another issue just six weeks later.

The Postmaster General's polite response to Stoddart-Smith was: 'With regret, I am sorry I cannot say yes'. In other words, he said no!

He explained that the policy was to issue commemorative stamps only on rare royal or postal anniversaries, or important

national events, leaving unstated the view that such issues were a bit un-British.

Stoddart-Smith was not satisfied, and threatened to kick up a fuss in the House of Commons.

As it happened, a 6d airletter was available with a design illustrating the Houses of Parliament, which could be overprinted to commemorate the event.

Unfortunately, as the conference hosts pointed out, most of the delegates would be from western Europe for which the letter-rate was not 6d but 4d.

The organisers had also commissioned a special pictorial handstamp, paid for by the Treasury, featuring another view of Westminster. They wanted a



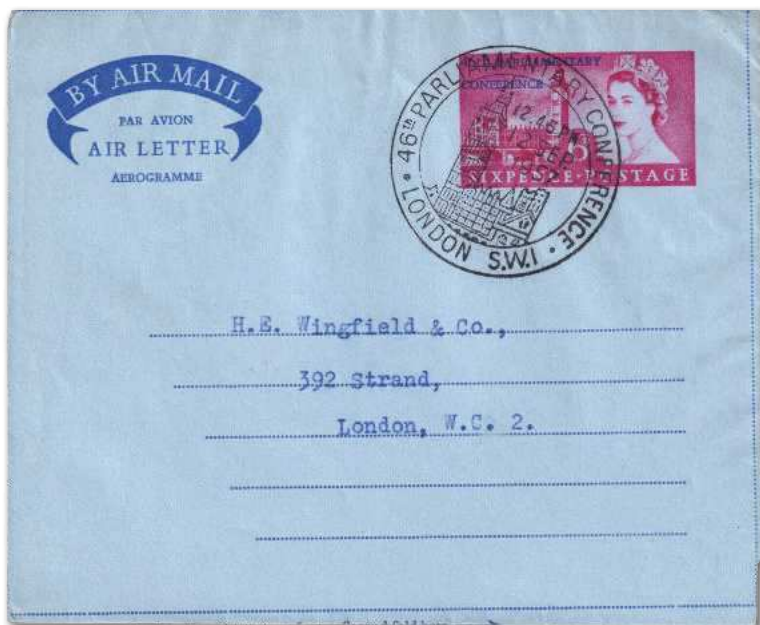
LEFT: The original Wilding 4d definitive had been issued in 1953, and reissued with the St Edward's Crown and E2R watermark in 1955



'This has been described as the most pointless and inept stamp design Britain has ever issued. In hindsight, it's a charming oddity'

Parliamentary Union Conference; in retrospect, 'IPU Conference' would perhaps have been preferable as an inscription.

The airletter's blue overprint on a red design was also less than satisfactory.



ABOVE: Official first day cover for the stamp, with the Westminster special handstamp of September 12, 1957

LEFT: First day cover of the IPU Conference 6d airletter, which comprised an overprint on an existing item of postal stationery

special 4d stamp to go with it.

With no time to commission a dedicated design, a compromise was reached. The Post Office would modify the existing 4d from the Wilding definitive series, which had been issued in its current guise (with the St Edward's Crown and E2R watermark) in 1955.

The job was given to a Post Office employee, Frank Langfield, who would later be credited with setting up the Philatelic Bureau.

As he recalled later, 'I got a sheet of 4d stamps and, with a mapping pen, drew the lettering around the frame.' His inscription spelt out 'Parliamentary Conference', crushed between the oval enclosing the Queen's head and the outer frame of the design.

It was a tight squeeze, and the result looked amateurish, but it

was the best that could be done in the time available.

At the last minute, someone pointed out that Langfield had omitted '46th'. The only space left for this was inside the portrait oval, under the Queen's chin, which was considered 'unfortunate'.

To ensure that the registration of the letters did not slip, the printers, Harrisons, made a new die rather than modifying an existing one. The printing came out in a paler shade of blue than the definitive, though within accepted tolerances.

The 4d stamp and the 6d airletter were both issued on September 12, 1957, the first day of the conference.

Nobody was very happy with either, especially as they ambiguously commemorated a 'Parliamentary Conference' rather than the properly titled Inter-

In contrast, the first day cover, paid for by the Treasury, was quite a handsome production compared with others of the era, with a two-colour design illustrating the Palace of Westminster superimposed on a globe.

The circular special handstamp, too, was a professional piece of work, though rather too large for the small-format stamp.

First day covers are now catalogued at £100 with the Westminster handstamp, or £300 with the scarcer House of Commons or House of Lords circular datestamp.

The much-derided little stamp was withdrawn only a month after its issue, as if to draw a line under an unhappy compromise. All the same, it can be seen in hindsight as a rather charming philatelic oddity.

Bad stamps can be as interesting as good ones, and sometimes even more so! ■

DID YOU KNOW?

The President of the Council for the Inter-Parliamentary Union from 1947-57 was none other than William Wedgwood Benn, Viscount Stansgate, who was the father of Tony Benn.

No doubt the debate over how the IPU Conference should be commemorated caused Tony, who was already a Member of Parliament, to take note of the Post Office's deeply conservative approach to stamp production.

Seven years later, as Postmaster General in the Labour government, he would set commemorative stamps on a new path.

ON SALE NOW!

THE BEST-VALUE GUIDE TO STAMP PRICES

8500
ITEMS
LISTED



2022 **BRITISH**
STAMP
MARKET VALUES



- **EVERY GREAT BRITAIN ISSUE SINCE 1840**
- **DEFINITIVES, COMMEMORATIVES, BOOKLETS**
- **OFFICIALS, POSTAGE DUES, SMILERS, POST & GO**
- **REAL MARKET VALUES, NOT CATALOGUE PRICES**

VICTORIA • EDWARD VII • GEORGE V • EDWARD VIII

**BETTER
VALUE THAN
ANY OTHER
PRICE GUIDE**

**ONLY
£15.99**

Order your copy at www.mags-uk.com
Or telephone 01795 662976

- Fully updated to mid-2021
- Handy, pocket-size format

VIP ROUTE-FINDER: **ADVANCED** COLLECTORS... Finding **Expensive Stamps** is a Function of Money But, Try Finding the **Inexpensive Ones** ...

That's a Real Challenge

and Only on Approval...

Get Your 1st Selection Now + 1st £25 FREE

Consider **Approvals**
but Take Auction
1st £55 Free Offer

Try **Approvals**
Est 62 years—
1st £25 Free



UK based COLLECTORS - Send No Money - ACT NOW

Not a lot of Collectors Know This, but some of the stamps they search for were produced in very small numbers ... often down to a few thousands or less of high values.

If the market were to 'move', surely these stamps would be the first to move up.

Naturally, it may take time – but, generally these stamps can be located, albeit not always in the best condition sought.

Counter intuitively one would think that low value stamps produced in larger printings would be easy to find, but sometimes such stamps may be much more difficult to source than high/higher value stamps ... and the reason why is often, but not always, because ...

few dealers can afford to cost-effectively handle stamps which are theoretically worth pence ...

However, even in the harsh reality

of today's cold 'covid' commercial climate, when you handle stamps cost-effectively, in 'on approval' stamp supply selling-systems, with the added benefit of 'scale', supplying stamps to be selected by hundreds of collector clients ... it is possible, even today, to effectively sell inexpensive stamps and crucially make sufficient profit to stay in business.

Supplying stamps 'on approval' to collectors since 1958, this is the 63-year-old legacy of my Avon & Omniphil Approvals. You may even have been one of our youngest clients, returning to philately 60 years later ... In those days, an advertisement offering a few free stamps in 'Boy's Own' would yield 3,000 response requests for stamp approvals ...

Thankfully the world has 'spun' a few times since and we have all matured – likewise our approvals business has 'grown' as part of a

larger organisation, but the same, open value for money principles, which have nurtured and nourished collectors – and our business, hold true today. Furthermore (whilst we supply 'approvals' to collectors 'universally'), we'll offer you a free trial to test receiving a selection of stamps you collect 'on approval' and take your 1st £25 worth absolutely FREE. Respond quickly and we'll 'round' your free stamps selected of your choice up to £30= provided you can pick them from your 1st two selections of stamp approvals ...

Just tell us which countries/subjects you collect, and whether you collect mint and/or used. We'll see what we can send you from our library of over 7,000 books of individually priced stamps, and if you live in the UK, we'll even include a postage paid return envelope ... please apply on line now whilst you are thinking about it, or fax / telephone my Team. Thank you.

Visit: www.UPAstampauctions.co.uk Go to Approvals

Tewkesbury Fax: 01684 299278 – approvals@upastampauctions.co.uk – T: 01684 299278

Find UPA also on-line at www.top-uptwenty.co.uk • New Instant-Purchase Price-Drop Selling-System

SM 07/22



MILLSTAMPS

Great Britain & Commonwealth



Established 2000

Friendly & Efficient service

Many satisfied customers

Competitively Priced

FOR COLLECTING & INVESTMENT

All Countries A-Z

'Excellent service, stamps and value'

'Excellent Selection thank you'

'Many thanks again your service is outstanding'

'Thank you for the excellent stamps, they are just what are required'

'Thank you for the lovely stamps and excellent service'

'I can't wait to receive more excellent stamps from you' 'Thank you for such good quality stamps, I am very pleased with your service'

'Thank you for all your help, we look forward to our next selection'

'May I add that the quality of the selections sent is exceptional'



See samples above of what we send out with many more available.
TO RECEIVE YOUR SELECTION CONTACT US BY POST OR PHONE



Interests: Great Britain ☐ Commonwealth ☐ Mint ☐ Used ☐ Victoria ☐ Edward ☐ George 5th ☐ George 6th ☐ Elizabeth ☐

Name

Address

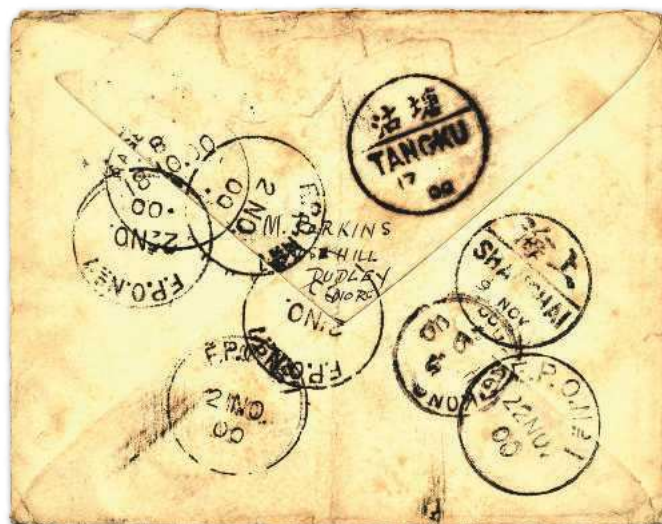
Tel no

Send to: Millstamps 14 The Spinney Ivybridge Devon PL21 9TU. 07972 846242

After the siege

A cover posted from Birmingham to China in 1900 reached a war reporter in Peking while British forces were occupying the city following the Boxer Rebellion

■ Report by Norman Watson



ABOVE: Cover of October 2, 1900, from Birmingham to China, addressed to a war correspondent and eventually delivered to occupied Peking

War and upheaval in overseas regions where there was a powerful British presence have always tended to produce interesting postal history, with unusual destinations and markings.

This busy cover was sent to a journalist covering the Boxer Rebellion, the peasant uprising against foreign influence in northern China in 1900.

The uprising provoked a multinational military response to restore order, the British contribution to which was the China Expeditionary Force.

The cover bears two copies of the 1881 1d lilac and a single 1900 ½d green, paying the 2½d rate to the Far East. The stamps are cancelled by three strikes of a routine Birmingham circular datestamp of October 2, 1900, with stamper's number 27.

The letter was addressed to 'J C

Cowen, War Correspondent, The London Daily Express, With British Forces, Taku, China.' Endorsed 'please forward', it was redirected with the further endorsement 'British Legation, Peking' in pencil.

Its travels in China are recorded by no fewer than nine handstamps on the reverse, including those of Hong Kong on November 5, Shanghai on November 9, Tangku on November 17, Base Post Office (in Tientsin) on November 18, Field Post Office No2 (allocated to the Peking Temple of Heaven) on November 21, Field Post Office No1 (allocated to the Peking Legations) on November 22, and Field Post Office No7 (allocated to Peking Tartar City) on November 22.

These rare base and field post office handstamps were used by the Indian Post Office, as the British land force mostly comprised Indian troops.

The dates fall into the period following the Relief of Peking.

The Chinese Government had declared war against the eight-nation alliance in June, and ordered a siege of the Legations Quarter in Peking (Beijing), where around 1,000 foreign diplomats, citizens and soldiers were trapped.

International forces marching from Tientsin (Tianjin), including the British-Indian troops, relieved the siege in August, and occupied the entire battered city until a peace treaty was agreed in 1901.

John Cowen was part of a notable journalistic family. His father was Assistant Editor of the *Yorkshire Post*, and his two brothers were also journalists.

During the Boxer Rebellion, Cowen reported directly for *The Times*, as well as for the *Daily Express* and *Daily Mail*. He was often syndicated anonymously to newspapers across the country as 'The Times correspondent'.

Just two months after receiving this correspondence, he founded the *China Times*, the first English-language newspaper published in Peking, in January 1901.

In 1904 he faced possible deportation for publishing an article concerning alleged acts of cruelty by Russian troops against the native Chinese population. After a diplomatic dispute, the sentence was quashed.

Cowen's brother William took over the editorship of the *China Times* in 1904. Another brother, Tom, edited the *Shanghai Times*. ■

'The cover's travels in China are recorded by no fewer than nine postmarks, including rare field post office handstamps'

STAMP MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTION ORDER FORM

DIRECT DEBIT SUBSCRIPTIONS (UK ONLY)

Yes, I would like to subscribe to **Stamp Magazine**

- ☐ Print + Digital: £12.90 every 3 months
☐ Print Subscription: £11.00 every 3 months


YOUR DETAILS MUST BE COMPLETED

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms.....Initial.....Surname.....
 Address.....
 Postcode.....Country.....
 Tel.....Mobile.....
 Email.....D.O.B.....

I WOULD LIKE TO SEND A GIFT TO:

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms.....Initial.....Surname.....
 Address.....
 Postcode.....Country.....

INSTRUCTIONS TO YOUR BANK/BUILDING SOCIETY

Originator's reference 422562 
 Name of bank.....
 Address of bank.....
 Postcode.....
 Account holder.....
 Signature.....Date.....

Sort code.....Account number.....

Instructions to your bank or building society: Please pay MyTimeMedia Ltd. Direct Debits from the account detailed in this instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this instruction may remain with MyTimeMedia Ltd and if so, details will be passed electronically to my bank/building society.

Reference Number (official use only).....

Please note that banks and building societies may not accept Direct Debit instructions from some types of account.

CARD PAYMENTS & OVERSEAS

Yes, I would like to subscribe to **Stamp Magazine**, for 1 year (12 issues) with a one-off payment

UK ONLY:

- ☐ Print + Digital: £53.59
☐ Print: £45.99

EUROPE & ROW:

- ☐ EU Print + Digital: £76.59
☐ EU Print: £68.99
☐ ROW Print + Digital: £76.59
☐ ROW Print: £68.99

PAYMENT DETAILS

☐ Postal Order/Cheque ☐ Visa/MasterCard ☐ Maestro
 Please make cheques payable to MyTimeMedia Ltd and write code ST2022 on the back

Cardholder's name.....

Card no: (Maestro).....

Valid from.....Expiry date.....Maestro issue no.....

Signature.....Date.....

TERMS & CONDITIONS: Offer ends 31st December 2022. MyTime Media collects your data so that we can fulfil your subscription. We may also, from time to time, send you details of MyTime Media offers, events and competitions but you always have a choice and can opt out by emailing us at unsubscribe@stampmagazine.co.uk. Please select here if you are happy to receive such offers by email ☐ by post ☐ by phone ☐. We do not share or sell your data with/to third parties. Details you share with us will be managed as outlined in our Privacy Policy here www.mytimemedia.co.uk/privacy-policy.

**POST THIS FORM TO: MY TIME MEDIA LTD
 3 QUEENSBRIDGE, THE LAKES,
 NORTHAMPTON NN4 7BF.**

Please visit www.mytimemedia.co.uk/terms for full terms & conditions

CODE ST2022



PRINT + DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION

12 Issues **delivered to your door**

Great savings on the shop price

Download each new issue to your device

A **75% discount** on your Digital Subscription

Access your subscription on **multiple devices**



PRINT SUBSCRIPTION

12 Issues **delivered to your door**

Great savings on the shop price

Never miss an issue

SUBSCRIBE TODAY

SUBSCRIBE TODAY

and enjoy great savings
on the shop price!

DIGITAL
SUBSCRIPTIONS
AVAILABLE ONLINE!

As Britain's longest-running independent philatelic magazine, Stamp Magazine offers a wide range of news, features and opinion to interest, entertain and inform you, whatever you collect. Our news pages are lively and well-informed, and the GB Collector section gives you the inside line on all upcoming British issues. Our features are the best-written and best illustrated in the world of philately, and our regular columnists pull no punches. Stamp Magazine publishes 12 great issues a year.




SAVE
75%* ON
DIGITAL ISSUE

Offer ends 31st December 2022. *This digital discount is only available when you subscribe to the 'Print + Digital' package. You can still get a great discount on the digital package, please visit the URL stated below for more information. Please see www.mytimemedia.co.uk/terms for full terms & conditions.

SUBSCRIBE SECURELY ONLINE

 <http://stamp.secureorder.co.uk/STP/ST2022>

CALL OUR ORDER LINE

 **0344 243 9023**

Lines open weekdays 8am – 8pm GMT & Saturday 9:30am – 3:30pm GMT

Quote ref: ST2022

Calls are charged at the same rate as standard UK landlines and are included as part of any inclusive or free minutes allowances. There are no additional charges with this number. Overseas calls will cost more.

UK & WORLDWIDE EXHIBITION DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

JUNE 9-12

CANADA

Capex 2022

Venue: Metro Toronto Convention Centre, 255 Front Street West, Toronto, Ontario.

Contact: Simon Moorcroft, UK Commissioner
simon.moorcroft6@btinternet.com
www.capex22.org

JUNE 10-12

BELGIUM

Antverpia 2022

Venue: Hall 1, Antwerp Expo, Jan Van Rijswijcklaan 191, 2020 Antwerp, Belgium.

Contact: Antverpia 2022 exhibition@antverpiade2020.be
www.antverpia2022.be

AUGUST 4-9

INDONESIA

Indonesia 2022 World Stamp Championship

Venue: Indonesian Parliament Complex, Jalan Jenderal Gatot Subroto No1, Jakarta 10270, Indonesia.

Contact: John Jackson, UK Commissioner
john.w.jackson@care4free.net
www.indonesia2022.id

SEPTEMBER 8-11

AUSTRALIA

Melbourne 2022

Venue: Caulfield Racecourse, Station Street, Caulfield East, Melbourne, Victoria 3145, Australia.

Contact: John Moore, President
moore.john@optusnet.com.au
www.melbourne2022.com.au

SEPTEMBER 28-

OCTOBER 1

UK

Stampex

Venue: Business Design Centre, 52 Upper Street, Islington, London N1 0QH.

Contact: Philatelic Traders Society, PO Box 290, Lingfield, Surrey RH7 9AX
Tel: 01342 830225
Fax: 01342 837888
info@thepts.net
www.thepts.net

OCTOBER 13-16

CZECH REPUBLIC

Liberec 2022

Venue: Wellness Hotel Babylon, Nitranská 1, 460 07 Liberec, Czech Republic.

Contact: Steve Harrison,

UK Commissioner

Tel: 0121 313 0671
sharrison500@btinternet.com
www.liberec2022.eu

OCTOBER 14-16

IRELAND

Stampa 2022

Venue: Griffith College Conference Centre, South Circular Road, Dublin 8, Republic of Ireland.

Contact: Stampa 2022
www.stampa.ie

OCTOBER 21-23

DENMARK

Nordia 2022

Venue: Birkerød Idrættscenter, Bistrupsvej 1, Birkerød, 3460 Denmark.

Contact: Danish Philatelic Association
www.danfil.dk

OCTOBER 27-29

GERMANY

Postgeschichte Live

Venue: Ulm-Messe, Böfingerstrasse 50, 89073 Ulm, Germany.

Contact: Thomas Höpfner, Deutsche Altbriefsammler-Verein
Tel: +49 8121 253880

t.hoepfner@t-online.de

www.dasv-postgeschichte.de

NOVEMBER 8-13

SOUTH AFRICA

IPEX 2021 International Exhibition

Venue: International Convention Centre, Convention Square, 1 Lower Long Street, Cape Town 8001, South Africa.

Contact: Jon Aitchison, UK Commissioner
Tel: 01279 870488
britishlocals@aol.com
www.capetown2022.org

NOVEMBER 18-20

USA

Chicagopex 2022

Venue: Westin Chicago Northwest, 400 Park Boulevard, Itasca, Illinois 60143, USA.

Contact: Kathy Johnson
kjj5217@gmail.com
chicagopex.org

NOVEMBER 24-26

MONACOPHIL 2022

Venue: Musée des Timbres et des Monnaies, Terrasses de Fontvieille, 98000 Monaco.

Contact: Patrick Maselis, General Commissioner

Tel: +32 474 84 84 39

patrick@maselis.be

www.monacophil.eu

DECEMBER 2-4

USA

Florex

Venue: Hall B, Events Center, Osceola Heritage Park, 1901 Chief Osceola Trail, Kissimmee, Florida 34744, USA.

Contact: Florex
show@florexstampshow.com
www.florexstampshow.com

MAY 19-21

AUSTRALIA

Hobart Stamp Show

Venue: Hobart Town Hall, Macquarie Street, Hobart, Tasmania.

Contact: Peter Allan, Exhibition Secretary, GPO Box 594, Hobart, Tasmania 7001, Australia
hesperus@netspace.net.au
www.hobartstampshow2023.com

MAY 25-28

GERMANY

IBRA 2023

Venue: Halls 1 & 2, South Entrance, Messe Essen, Alfredstrasse, 45131 Essen, Germany.

Contact: IBRA 2023
www.ibra2023.de



ABOVE: The historic Belgian city of Antwerp hosts Antverpia 2022 (postposed from its original date in 2020) from June 10-12

Every care is taken to ensure the details published are accurate, but we cannot be responsible for any errors or cancellations. You are advised to check with the event organisers before setting out.



North Staffs Stamps

Fine British Commonwealth 1840 - present



Contact us to request our free catalogue
or to see our current selection of stock
Visit us at: www.northstaffsstamps.co.uk

Email: nstaffsstamps@yahoo.co.uk

Tel: 01782 818560

PO Box 2701, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, ST6 9AL



WHAT'S ON: AUCTIONS

UK & WORLDWIDE AUCTION DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

JUNE 10 MARESCH

Fred Fawn collection of Canada
Venue: Capex 2022 exhibition,
 Toronto, Ontario, Canada.
Contact: R Maresch & Son Auctions
 Tel: +1 905 726 2197
 peter@maresch.com
 www.mareach.com

JUNE 11 BIL & CO

Venue: Washingborough Community
 Centre, Fen Road, Washingborough,
 Lincolnshire LN4 1AB.
Contact: Bil Tilbury
 Tel: 01400 230769
 auctionsbil@btinternet.com
 www.bilandco.co.uk

JUNE 11 CHESHIRE

Venue: Sandafayre, Egerton Court,
 Haig Road, Knutsford,
 Cheshire WA16 8DX.
Contact: Sandafayre
 Tel: 01565 653214
 stamp@sandafayre.com
 www.sandafayre.com

JUNE 13-17 DAVID FELDMAN

Venue: 59 Route de Chancy,
 1213 Petit Lancy 1,
 Geneva, Switzerland.
Contact: David Feldman SA
 Tel: +41 22 727 0777
 info@davidfeldman.com
 www.davidfeldman.com

JUNE 15-16 GROSVENOR

British Empire & Foreign Countries
Mike J Y Roberts collection of
Canada postal history
Venue: Stanley Gibbons, 399-401
 Strand, London WC2R 0LT.

Contact: Grosvenor Philatelic Auctions
 Tel: 020 7379 8789
 info@grosvenor-auctions.co.uk
 www.grosvenorauctions.com

**JUNE 15
STANLEY GIBBONS**
Graham Booth Collection of
Cayman Islands postal history
Venue: Stanley Gibbons, 399 Strand,
 London WC2R 0LX.
Contact: Stanley Gibbons Auctions
 Tel: 020 7836 8444
 auctions@stanleygibbons.com
 www.stanleygibbons.com

**JUNE 17-18
HAMBURG**
Venue: Kleine Reichenstrasse 1,
 20457 Hamburg, Germany.
Contact: Auction Galleries Hamburg,
 Tel: +49 40 33 71 57
 info@auction-galleries.de
 www.auction-galleries.de

**JUNE 18-19
AUCKLAND CITY**
Venue: 1 Ngairu Avenue, Newmarket,
 Auckland, New Zealand.
Contact: Auckland City Stamps
 Tel: +64 9 522 0311
 hello@aucklandcitystamps.co.nz
 www.aucklandcitystamps.co.nz

**JUNE 20-25
CHRISTOPH GÄRTNER**
Venue: Steinbeisstrasse 6 & 8,
 74321 Bietigheim-Bissingen,
 Germany.
Contact: Philatelic Christoph Gärtner
 Tel: +49 7142 789 400
 info@auktionen-gaertner.de
 www.auktionen-gaertner.de

**JUNE 21-23
SPINK**
Klempka Family collection of

Great Britain, part 1
Venue: Royal Philatelic Society
 London, 15 Abchurch Lane,
 London EC4N 7BW.
Contact: Spink UK
 Tel: 020 7563 4005
 auctionteam@spink.com
 www.spink.com

**JUNE 22-24
H R HARMER**
Venue: Suite 2607, 45 Rockefeller
 Plaza, 630 5th Avenue, New York
 10111, USA.
Contact: H R Harmer
 Tel: +1 929 436 2800
 info@hrharmer.com
 www.hrharmer.com

**JUNE 22 & 23
CAVENDISH**
Venue: Cavendish House, 153-157
 London Road, Derby DE1 2SY.
Contact: Cavendish
 Tel: 01332 250970
 stamps@cavendish-auctions.com
 www.cavendish-auctions.com

**JUNE 22-25
EASTERN AUCTIONS**
Venue: 130 Main Street,
 Bathurst, New Brunswick, Canada
 E2A 1A4.
Contact: Eastern Auctions
 Tel: +1 506 548 8986
 contact@easternauctions.com
 www.easternauctions.com

**JUNE 23-26
JOHN BULL**
Venue: 7/F Kwong Fat Hong Building,
 1 Rumsey Street, Sheung Wan,
 Hong Kong.
Contact: John Bull Stamp Auctions
 Tel: +852 2890 5767
 info@jbull.com
 www.jbull.com

**JUNE 27-28
PROVINCIAL
PHILATELICS**
Venue: Benson Parish Hall,
 Sunnyside, Benson, Wallingford,
 Oxfordshire OX10 6LZ.
Contact: Provincial Philatelics
 Tel: 01235 511083
 www.provincialphilatelics.co.uk

**JUNE 29-30
MARESCH**
Venue: online only.
Contact: R Maresch & Son Auctions
 Tel: +1 905 726 2197
 peter@maresch.com
 www.mareach.com

**JULY 2-3
AVA**
Venue: Mandarin Oriental Hotel, 15
 Queen's Road Central, Hong Kong.
Contact: AVA Auctions
 Tel: +852 63543434
 info@avaauctions.com
 www.avaauctions.com

**JULY 5
UPA**
Venue: online only.
Contact: Universal Philatelic
 Auctions
 Tel: 01451 861111
 info@upastampauctions.co.uk
 www.upastampauctions.co.uk

**JULY 6
WARWICK & WARWICK**
Venue: The Court House, Jury Street,
 Warwick CV34 4EW.
Contact: Warwick & Warwick
 Tel: 01926 499031
 info@warwickandwarwick.com
 www.warwickandwarwick.com

**JULY 9
SWPA**
Venue: Harewood House, Ridgeway,
 Plymouth, Devon PL7 2AS.
Contact: South West Philatelic
 Auctions
 Tel: 01752 698089
 richardswpa@outlook.com
 www.swpa-stamp-auctions.com

**JULY 12-14
DUTCH COUNTRY
AUCTIONS**
Venue: 4115 Concord Pike,
 Wilmington, Delaware 19803, USA.
Contact: Russell Eggert, Stamp
 Center Inc
 Tel: +1 302 478 8740
 auctions@dutchcountryauctions.com
 www.dutchcountryauctions.com

**JULY 13
AJH STAMPS**
Venue: The Dunkenhall Hotel & Spa,
 Clayton-le-Moors, Lancashire BB5
 5JP.
Contact: AJH Stamps
 Tel: 01254 393740
 sales@ajhstamps.co.uk
 www.ajhstamps.co.uk

ENGLISH-LANGUAGE POSTAL SALES

COUNTY
 county@stampauctions.co.uk
 www.stampauctions.co.uk

MAYFAIR
 info@mpastamps.com
 www.mpastamps.com

MOWBRAY
 mowbray.stamps@xtra.co.nz
 www.mowbrays.co.nz

SAJAL PHILATELICS
 brian@brian-reeve.com
 www.brian-reeve.com

SANDAFAYRE
 stamp@sandafayre.com
 www.sandafayre.com

THE STAMP GROUP
 info@stampgroup.net
 www.stampgroup.net

UNIVERSAL
 info@upastampauctions.co.uk
 www.upastampauctions.co.uk

VANCE
 mail@vanceauctions.com
 www.vanceauctions.com

ENGLISH-LANGUAGE ONLINE SALES

DALKEITH
 www.dalkeith-auctions.co.uk

DELCAMPE
 www.delcampe.net

MCCUSKER
 www.jamesmccusker.com

MOWBRAY
 www.mowbrays.co.nz

PHILATINO
 www.philatino.com

RASMUSSEN
 www.bruun-rasmussen.dk

REGENCY
 www.regencystamps.com

ROGERS
 www.michaelrogersinc.com

SAMMARINESE
 www.filsam.com

SANDAFAYRE
 www.sandafayre.com

SKANFIL
 www.skanfil.no

STAMP CENTER
 www.thestampcenter.com

STAMPFAIR
 www.stampfair.com

TORRES
 www.antoniotorres.com

TRAFFORD BOOKS
 www.traffordbooks.co.uk

LOT TO BE DESIRED

David Feldman's spring auction series, to be held in Geneva from June 13-17, will include sections on Great Britain and the British Empire, Italian postal history abroad, France and its colonies, Egypt and more.

One spectacular lot is a registered and insured cover from British East Africa to Transvaal in 1898, franked with six ½a green, six 1a red, five 2a brown, five 2½a blue, five 4a deep green, and four 3r violet adhesives. A 32nd stamp appears to have fallen off!



UK STAMP FAIR DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

JUNE 11

DERBY

(stamps, postal history)

Venue: Nunsfield House Community Hall, 33 Boulton Road, Alvaston, DE24 0FD.
Time: 9.30am-3.30pm
Contact: H V Johnson & Co
Tel: 01909 562927

MIDDLEWICH

(stamp, postal history)

Venue: Community Centre, Civic Way, off Leadsmithy Street, CW10 9BX.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: Fred O'Reilly
Tel: 01226 765069

NORTON

(stamps, postal history, postcards)

Venue: Norton Methodist Church Hall, High Street, TS20 2QQ.
Time: 9.30am-1.30pm
Contact: Graham Whitewick
Tel: 07849 904353

SWINDON

(stamps, postal history, postcards)

Venue: St Joseph's Catholic College, Ocotal Way, SN3 3LR.
Time: 10am-4.30pm
Contact: David Gibbon, Swinex
gibbon35@gmail.com

JUNE 12

WOKINGHAM

(stamps, postal history)

Venue: St Crispin's Centre, London Road, RG40 1SR.
Time: 9am-2pm
Contact: T Brittain
Tel: 07957 158299

JUNE 15

EAST GRINSTEAD
(stamps, postal history, postcards)

Venue: Chequer Mead Arts Centre, De La Warr Road, RH19 2BS.
Time: 10am-3pm
Contact: John Perriman
Tel: 01903 244875

JUNE 17-18

STAFFORD

(stamps, postal history)

Venue: Ingestre Suite, Staffordshire County Showground, Weston Road, ST18 0BD.
Time: Friday 10am-5pm, Saturday 10am-4pm
Contact: JRS Fairs
Tel: 01785 259350

JUNE 18

BRIGHTON

(stamps, postal history)

Venue: Church of the Good Shepherd Hall, 272 Dyke Road, Hove, BN1 5AE.

Time: 10am-4pm

Contact: M J Perriman
Tel: 01903 244875

HULL

(stamps, postal history)

Venue: St James Centre, 169 First Lane, Hessle, HU13 9EY.
Time: 9.30am-3.30pm
Contact: H V Johnson & Co
Tel: 01909 562927

JUNE 19

DRONFIELD

(stamps, postal history)

Venue: Coal Aston Village Hall, Eckington Road, Coal Aston, S18 3AY.
Time: 9.30am-3.30pm
Contact: H V Johnson & Co
Tel: 01909 562927

SEVENOAKS

(stamps, postal history)

Venue: Stag Plaza, Stag Theatre, London Road, TN13 1ZZ.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: R&R Stamp Fairs
Tel: 01303 238807

JUNE 25

COLCHESTER

(stamp, postal history)

Venue: Parish Hall, Old London Road, Marks Tey, CO6 1EN.

Time: 9am-3pm

Contact: Lorne Webb
Tel: 01424 751518

COVENTRY

(stamp, postal history)

Venue: Shilton Village Hall, Wood Lane, Shilton, CV7 9JZ.
Time: 10am-1pm
Contact: Dave Mann
Tel: 07976 797975

EALING

(stamps, postal history, postcards)

Venue: Ealing Parish Church, St Mary's Road, W13 9PR.
Time: 9am-1pm
Contact: T Brittain
Tel: 07957 158299

MORLEY

(stamps, postal history)

Venue: St Mary's Church Hall, Commercial Street, LS27 8HZ.
Time: 9.30am-3.30pm
Contact: H V Johnson & Co
Tel: 01909 562927

PENSILVA

(stamps, postal history, postcards)

Venue: Millennium House, Princess Road, PL14 5NF.
Time: 9.30am-3.30pm
Contact: Barry Mudie
Tel: 07931 508886



JUNE 26

AMERSHAM

(stamps, postal history)

Venue: Jubilee Hall, Rectory Hill, HP7 0BT.
Time: 8.30am-1pm
Contact: Mike Conden
Tel: 07503 228375

LUTON

(stamp, postal history, postcards)

Venue: Village Hall, Markyate Road & Grove Road, Slip End, LU1 4BU.
Time: 10am-3pm
Contact: Simon Shaw
Tel: 07534 496845

MAIDSTONE

(stamps, postal history)

Venue: Royal British Legion Hall, British Legion Village, New Road, Aylesford, ME20 7NX.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: M J Perriman
Tel: 01903 244875

PORTSMOUTH

(stamps, postal history, postcards)

Venue: Cosham Community Centre, Wootton Street, PO6 3AP.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: Panda Fairs
Tel: 01489 582673

JULY 2

BECKENHAM

(stamps, postal history, postcards)

Venue: Azelia Halls, Croydon Road, BR3 4DA.
Time: 9am-3pm

Contact: Ray McQuade
Tel: 020 8395 9285

BILSBORROW

(stamp, postal history)

Venue: Bilsborrow Village Hall, PR3 0RP.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: Fred O'Reilly
Tel: 01226 765069

BOURNEMOUTH

(stamps, postal history)

Venue: Pelham's Park, Millhams Road, Kinson, BH10 7LH.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: Panda Fairs
Tel: 01489 582673

CROYDON

(stamps, postal history, postcards)

Venue: Shirley Methodist Church Hall, Eldon Avenue, CR0 8SD.
Time: 9am-3pm
Contact: Ray McQuade
Tel: 020 8395 9285

EASTBOURNE

(stamps, postal history, postcards)

Venue: St Mary's Church Hall, Decoy Drive, Hampden Park, BN22 9PP.
Time: 9.30am-3pm
Contact: Chris Rapley
Tel: 07711 677760

LEICESTER

(stamps, postal history)

Venue: Derby Room, The Holiday Inn, St Nicholas Circle, LE1 5LX.
Time: 9.30am-3.30pm



Every care is taken to ensure the details published are accurate, but we cannot be responsible for any errors or cancellations. You are advised to check with the event organisers before setting out.



Contact: John Suschitzky
Tel: 0116 235 0441

ST IVES (stamps, postal history)

Venue: Burgess Hall,
Westwood Road, PE27 6WU.
Time: 10am-3.30pm.
Contact: Arun Stamps
Tel: 01328 829318
www.arunstamps.co.uk

SWINDON (stamps, postal history, postcards)

Venue: Lawns Community
Centre, Guildford Avenue,
Lawns, SN3 1LA.
Time: 9.30am-2.30pm
Contact: John Puttock
Tel: 01793 542767

YORK (stamps, postal history, postcards)

Venue: Wigginton Recreation
Hall, The Village, Wigginton,
YO32 2PL.
Time: 9am-2pm
Contact: Graham Whitewick
Tel: 07849 904353

JULY 3 **LINCOLN** (stamps, postal history)

Venue: Reepham Village Hall,
Hawthorn Road, LN3 4DU.
Time: 9.30am-3.30pm
Contact: Tony Limb
Tel: 07562 570562

MILTON KEYNES (stamp, postal history, postcards)

Venue: Irish Centre, Manor
Fields, Watling Street,

Fenny Stratford, MK2 2HX.
Time: 10am-3pm
Contact: Simon Shaw
Tel: 07534 496845

OXFORD
(stamps, postal history)
Venue: Botley WI Hall, North
Hinksey Lane, off Botley Road,
OX2 0LT.
Time: 10am-1.30pm
Contact: T Brittain
Tel: 07957 158299

JULY 8
LONDON
(stamps, postal history)
Venue: Royal National Hotel,
Bedford Way, Russell Square,
WC1H 0DG.
Time: Friday 9am-3pm
Contact: Kate Puleston
Tel: 020 8946 4489

JULY 9
DERBY
(stamps, postal history)
Venue: Nunsfield House
Community Hall, 33 Boulton
Road, Alvaston, DE24 0FD.
Time: 9.30am-3.30pm
Contact: H V Johnson & Co
Tel: 01909 562927

GUILDFORD
(stamps, postal history,
postcards)
Venue: Onslow Village Hall,
Wilderness Road, GU2 7QR.
Time: 9.30am-3pm
Contact: Chris Rapley
Tel: 07711 677760

NORTON
(stamps, postal history,
postcards)

Venue: Norton Methodist
Church Hall, High Street,
TS20 2QQ.
Time: 9.30am-1.30pm
Contact: Graham Whitewick
Tel: 07849 904353

RAWRETH
(stamps, postal history)
Venue: Rawreth Parish Hall,
Church Road, SS11 8SH.
Time: 9am-3pm
Contact: Barry Mead
Tel: 07786 302 722

TELFORD
(stamps, postal history)
Venue: Belmont Hall,
off Tan Bank car park,
Wellington, TF1 1HJ.
Time: 10am-2pm
Contact: Richard Camp
Tel: 01952 405458

UPMINSTER
(stamp, postal history)
Venue: St Laurence Church
Hall, Corbets Tey Road,
RM14 2AJ.
Time: 10am-3pm
Contact: Simon Shaw
Tel: 07534 496845

WAKEFIELD
(stamps, postal history)
Venue: Queen Elizabeth
Grammar School, 154
Northgate, WF1 3QX.

Time: 10am-4.30pm
Contact: Philip Reynolds
Tel: 07805 509469

JULY 10
WOKINGHAM
(stamps, postal history)
Venue: St Crispin's Centre,
London Road, RG40 1SR.
Time: 9am-2pm
Contact: T Brittain
Tel: 07957 158299

JULY 15-16
YORK
(stamps, postal history,
coins)
Venue: The Grandstand, York
Racecourse, York YO23 1EX.
Time: Friday 11am-6pm,
Saturday 10am-4pm
Contact: Kate Puleston
Tel: 020 8946 4489

JULY 16
BRIGHTON
(stamps, postal history)
Venue: Church of the Good
Shepherd Hall, 272 Dyke Road,
Hove, BN1 5AE.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: M J Perriman
Tel: 01903 244875

CARDIFF
(stamps, postal history,
postcards)
Venue: Cardiff City Hall,

Cathays Park, CF10 3ND.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: Malcolm Harrington
Tel: 01792 415293

CHESTER
(stamps, postal history)
Venue: Hoole United Reformed
Church, Hoole Road, CH2 3NT.
Time: 10am-3.30pm
Contact: Terry Barnett
Tel: 0151 486 2610

COLCHESTER
(stamp, postal history)
Venue: Parish Hall, Old
London Road, Marks Tey,
CO6 1EN.
Time: 9am-3pm
Contact: Lorne Webb
Tel: 01424 751518

HULL
(stamps, postal history)
Venue: St James Centre,
169 First Lane, Hessle,
HU13 9EY.
Time: 9.30am-3.30pm
Contact: H V Johnson & Co
Tel: 01909 562927

NORTHAMPTON
(stamps, postal history)
Venue: The Abbey Centre,
East Hunsbury, NN4 0RZ.
Time: 9.30am-3pm
Contact: T Brittain
Tel: 07957 158299

PLYMOUTH
(stamps, postal history)
Venue: Plymstock Community
Centre, The Broadway,
PL9 7AW.
Time: 9.30am-3.30pm
Contact: Barry Mudie
Tel: 07931 508886

SOUTHAMPTON
(stamps, postal history,
postcards)
Venue: Methodist Hall,
St James Road, Shirley,
SO15 5HE.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: Panda Fairs
Tel: 01489 582673

JULY 17
DRONFIELD
(stamps, postal history)
Venue: Coal Aston Village
Hall, Eckington Road, Coal
Aston, S18 3AY.
Time: 9.30am-3.30pm
Contact: H V Johnson & Co
Tel: 01909 562927

SOLIHULL
(stamps, postal history,
postcards)
Venue: Knowle Village Hall,
St John's Close, Knowle,
B93 0NH.
Time: 9.30am-2.30pm
Contact: Andrew Vaughan
Tel: 07824 775979



SELECTED UK PHILATELIC SOCIETY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

JUNE 9

BRISTOL PS

The Bechuanaland

by Tony Stanford

Venue: Redland Park United Reformed Church, Whiteladies Road, BS6 6SA.

Time: 7.30pm

Contact: Mike Breward

Tel: 01179 567853

MAIDSTONE & MID-KENT PS

Ashes Cricket and Our Kingfisher by Greg Newey

Venue: St Paul's Church Hall, Boxley Road, ME14 2AH.

Time: 7.30pm

Contact: Brian Stonestreet

Tel: 01622 675784

b.stonestreet@btinternet.com

JUNE 10

HAYLING ISLAND SC Covers & Postal Stationery

Venue: The Small Hall, United Reformed Church, Hollow Lane, Mengham, PO11 9EY.

Time: 7.30pm

Contact: David Carter

Tel: 023 9248 6534

JUNE 14

NORTH WEST KENT PS

Napoleon & Waterloo

Venue: Hurst Community Centre, Hurst Place, Hurst Road, Bexley, DA5 3HL.

Time: 8pm

Contact: Clifford Ayers

Tel: 07551 993819

PORTSMOUTH & DISTRICT PS

Members' Items of Interest

Venue: Portchester Parish Hall, Assheton Court, Portchester, PO16 9PY.

Time: 2pm

Contact: Paul Davidson

Tel: 023 9259 3987

RINGWOOD PS

Smithy & His Bus

by Susan Burn

Venue: Greyfriars Community Centre, Christchurch Road, BH24 1DW.

Time: 7.30pm

Contact: Gordon D Masson

Tel: 01425 470710

VECTIS PS

Hungary by Peter Clark

Venue: Newport Conservative Club, Lower Pyle Street, Newport, Isle of Wight PO30 1XB.

Time: 7.30pm

Contact: Mike Torreggiani

Tel: 01983 821417

JUNE 15

FARNBOROUGH

S&PC

Italian Hospital Ships

by Peter High

Venue: Royal British Legion, 51 Cambridge Road East, GU14 6QB.

Time: 7.30pm

Contact: Norman Kelsey

Tel: 01252 514002

JUNE 18

GREAT BRITAIN PS

Some Help with Exhibiting

by Graham Winters

Time: 11am

AGM and Members' Displays

Time: 2.15pm

Venue: Royal Philatelic Society London, 15 Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 7BW.

Contact: John Davies

Tel: 01295 255831

JUNE 20

SOUTH MIDLANDS SC

Gibraltar 1842-2018

by Colin Searle

Venue: Barford Memorial Hall, Church Street, Barford, CV35 8EN.

Time: 1.30pm

Contact: John Gledhill

Tel: 01789 842112

JUNE 22

BARNESLEY PS

Lord Mason & Dickie Bird

Competitions

Venue: Friends (Quakers) Meeting House, corner of Western Street and Huddersfield Road, S70 2BP.

Time: 7pm

Contact: Philip Reynolds

Tel: 07805 509469

JUNE 23

TORQUAY & TEIGNBRIDGE SC

One-Sheet Competition

Venue: St Michael's Church Hall, Chudleigh Road, Kingsteignton, TQ12 3JU.

Time: 7.30pm

Contact: Dave Cleaver

Tel: 01803 297212

JUNE 28

SPALDING & DISTRICT SC

Antarctic Postal History

by Bil Tilbury

Venue: The Frasier Room, Gosberton Road, Surfleet, PE11 4AB.

Time: 7.30pm

Contact: Derek Pollard

Tel: 01778 426904

JUNE 29

LYTHAM ST ANNE'S PS

Turkey

Venue: The Drive Methodist

Church, Eastbank Road, St Anne's, FY8 1LH.

Time: 7.30pm

Contact: Tim Giddings

Tel: 07703 183655

JULY 5

SOUTHAMPTON & DISTRICT PS

Plague Pandemics

by Chris Wheeler

Venue: St Joseph's Church Hall, Bugle Street, S014 2AH.

Time: 7pm

Contact: Eddie Mays

Tel: 023 8040 2194

WEST LONDON PS

Members' Evening: Letter K

Venue: The Church Hall, Woodlands Avenue, Acton, W3 9BU.

Time: 8pm

Contact: Christopher E Oliver

Tel: 020 8940 9833

JULY 6

FARNBOROUGH S&PC

19th-Century Postal History

by David Springett

Venue: Royal British Legion, 51 Cambridge Road East, GU14 6QB.

Time: 7.30pm

Contact: Norman Kelsey

Tel: 01252 514002

WAKEFIELD PS

Biafra by Tony Plumbe

Venue: Thornes Junior Football Club House, Queens Drive, WF5 9BE.

Time: 7pm

Contact: Philip Reynolds

Tel: 07805 509469

JULY 8

HAYLING ISLAND SC

Black Gold

by Miller McGrath

Venue: The Small Hall, United Reformed Church, Hollow Lane, Mengham, PO11 9EY.

Time: 7.30pm

Contact: David Carter

Tel: 023 9248 6534

JULY 12

AXE VALE SC

Anti-Terrorist Measures to Protect Recipients of Mail

by Gavin Fryer

Venue: Bradshaw Rooms, Silver Street, Axminster, EX13 5AH.

Time: 7.30pm

Contact: Nicholas Arrow

Tel: 07973 253951

NORTH WEST

KENT PS

New Additions to the

British Library

Venue: Hurst Community Centre, Hurst Place, Hurst Road, Bexley, DA5 3HL.

Time: 8pm

Contact: Clifford Ayers

Tel: 07551 993819

JULY 13

BROMLEY & BECKENHAM PS

The Southern Hemisphere

Venue: Middle Hall, Melvin Halls Community Centre, Melvin Road, SE20 8EU.

Time: 7.30pm

Contact: David Rennie

Tel: 020 8778 7001

DUNDEE & DISTRICT PS

Dundee & District Philatelic Society enjoyed a varied selection of displays during early months of 2022, with guest speakers from near and far.

January included a Zoom display on the philately of Brazil, by Janet and Nick Nelson of Hereford & Mid Wales PS.

February brought a personal visit from members of Perth PS, with Alastair Ferguson displaying prisoner-of-war mail from Malta, Michael Bracket tackling on the theme of women's fashion, and Colin Caskie focusing on covers relating to the Royal Highland Show.

March saw two more Zoom displays, by Keith Burton from Harrogate PS on the subject of the 1972 Olympic Torch Relay, and by Michael Ellison from Aberdeen PS on the Canal Zone of Panama.

In April, Ron Goodfellow entertained his fellow members with the fourth in a series of displays of commercial covers, concentrating first on retail and wholesale businesses and then on hotels.

For further information about the society's activities, contact its publicity officer Colin Campbell. E-mail: campbell933@btinternet.com



ABOVE: Ron Goodfellow displaying some of his extensive collection of commercial covers



JOHN LAMONBY

FINE BRITISH ADHESIVES



MY EARLY GREAT BRITAIN TWICE MONTHLY LISTING...



... IS FREE UPON REQUEST AND IS READY NOW

JOHN LAMONBY

FINE BRITISH ADHESIVES

**SAME DAY
DESPATCH**

**ALL ORDERS
POST FREE**

Callers by appointment

211 Old Castle Street, Portchester, Hampshire PO16 9QW, Great Britain,
Tel: 02392378035

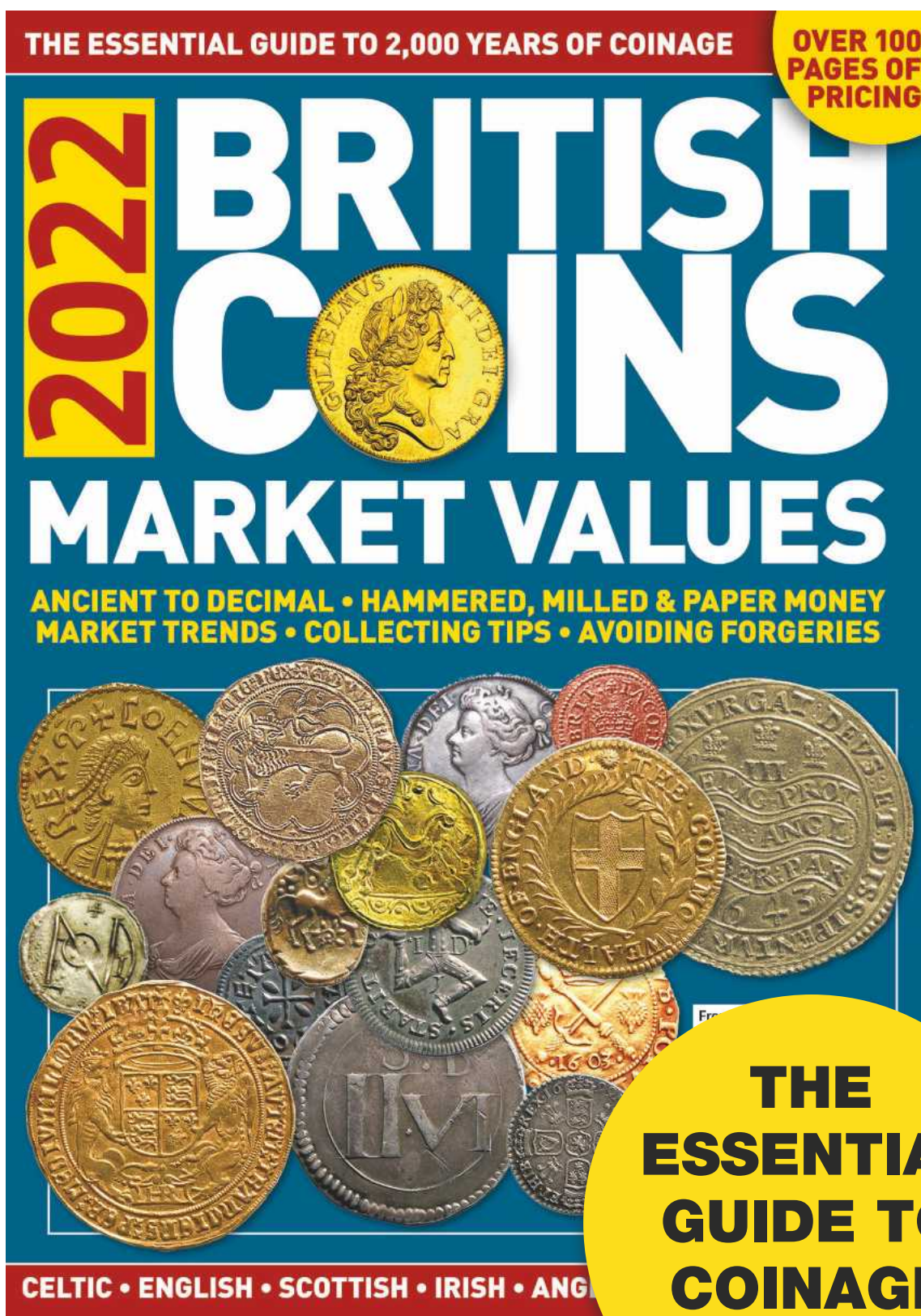
E-mail: lamonby@aol.com www.johnlamonby.com
ESTABLISHED IN PHILATELY FOR 45 YEARS



929541.08



ON SALE NOW

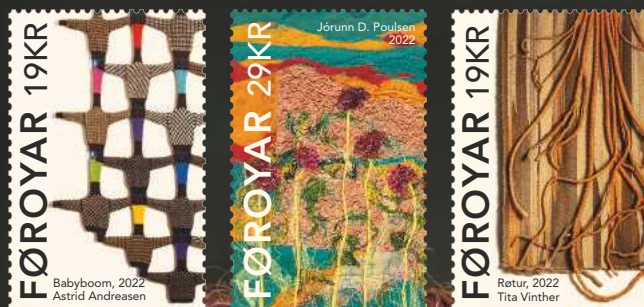


Order your copy at www.mags-uk.com
Or telephone **01795 662976**

- Fully updated to mid-2021
- Handy pocket-size guide

**ONLY
£15.99**

Faroe Islands Stamps



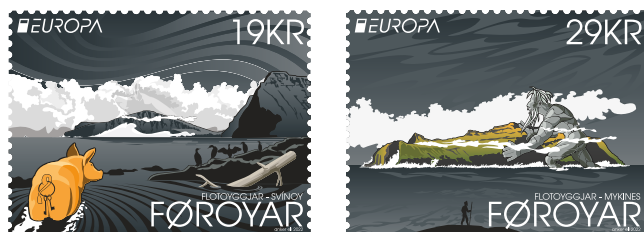
Organic art

Exciting new stamp issue featuring organic artworks by three female Faroese artists, each creating art with their own technique and material from the Faroese nature.

These works can give the viewer a special experience, e.g. smelling flowers, wool and seaweed.

Art by Astrid Andreassen, Jórunn D. Poulsen and Tita Vinther.

Buy stamps now!
en.stamps.fo



EUROPA 2022

Myths and legends

Floating islands - In many island cultures we find legends of so-called floating islands - islands that have mysteriously drifted in from the sea, disappeared again. The island of Svínøy is said to have originally been a floating island. It often appeared in the north, but it was rarely seen because it was usually shrouded in fog.



Date of issue 16.05.2022

The first book in Faroese language

The first book in the Faroese language was printed in 1822. The text was a transcript of the ballad about Sigurd, the Slayer of the Dragon Fafnir, derived from the extensive Faroese oral tradition, where songs are performed while dancing Faroese chain dance.

STAMP SHOPS

CORNWALL

West Cornwall Stamp Centre

Prinz Publications UK Ltd,
Unit 20a, Long Rock Industrial
Estate, Long Rock, Penzance
Cornwall, TR20 8HX
Tel: 01736 751910
www.prinz.co.uk
prinzpublications@gmail.com

West Cornwall's only stamp shop!
Wide range of philatelic material on offer - plus large stock of albums and accessories. We offer an extensive mail order service. Please note our new address!

Shop open weekdays 9.00-5.00


GLOUCESTERSHIRE

M & C Stamps

26 Westgate Street,
Gloucester, GL1 2NG.
Tel: 01452 506361
Fax: 01452 307161

GB, Commonwealth and World
Stamps. GB New Issue Service.
Accessories for all collectors.

Open: Thursday - Monday
10.00-5.00pm
Sunday 11.00-4.00pm
Access and Visa
Telephone & mail order
service available

Follow me on  Facebook
mick@mandccards.co.uk

FEATURED WEBSITES

www.purvesphilatelics.co.uk



Comprehensive and competitively prices listing of British Commonwealth (no G.B.) from 1840-1980. The site is very user friendly and quality is assured.

www.robinhood-stamp.co.uk

Singles, sets and collections from around the World.
Retail Shop open every Friday.



Rushcliffe House, 17-19 Rectory Road,
West Bridgford, Nottingham. NG2 6BE

Tel: 0115 982 6152



www.embassystamps.co.uk



1,000's of G.B. stamps from £10 to £100,000. Probably the greatest selection of G.B. on the web today.

www.brianreeveauctions.com



Regular public. Stamps Auctions in London also monthly First Day Cover postal auctions.

UNSOLD LOTS ALWAYS FOR SALE FROM LAST AUCTIONS

HERTFORDSHIRE

STAMP PAD

With the closure of Stamp Fairs, Clubs and Auctions unable to hold competitive arenas, it is left to the Stamp Approval businesses to keep home based collectors supplied. We have found there to be a considerable increase in business and new customers taking the hobby.

Unlike many of our competitors, we service over 350 satisfied customers and to enable us to do this, we are holding large stocks. You may ask, where do we get our replacement stock now that Auctions are unable to replenish their stocks. Simply, over 40 years of trading we lose customers, either by failing interest or death. We hold all these customer contacts, so re-provision our stocks by this means.

We have single country 10 page books which cover all Commonwealth countries of both Empire and Republic; also, all Foreign countries with exclusion of the Far East.

We engage in personal contact with all new customers. In this way, we are able to help you with your collection with a personal knowledge of knowing what you are looking for. Very few customers are disappointed.

Do give us a try. We only need a reference, preferably a Stamp Auction.



THE STAMP PAD

Poachers Retreat, Common Lane, Kings
Langley, WD4 9HP

Tel: 01923 269775
mg.read@btinternet.com

www.michaelgread.co.uk

FEATURED WEBSITES



Great Britain 1839-1951
www.andrewglajer.co.uk

Andrew G Lajer Ltd
sales@andrewglajer.co.uk
T: +44 (0)1189 344151



VISIT THE NEW EUROPEAN STAMP STORES

www.StampsItaly.com www.StampsFrance.com
www.StampsBelgium.com www.StampsAustria.com
www.StampsPortugal.com www.Stamps-Germany.com
www.Stamps-Europe.com www.Stamps-America.com

Lowest prices you can find on the Internet

Pedro Almeida

American Philatelic Society Dealer Member #228891

Pcta Juiz Carlos Lopes Quadros, 4 - 4 Dto. 2775-695 Carcavelos, Portugal
mail@stampsportugal.com Tel: +351 211 557 634



SOUTH & CENTRAL AMERICA

Stamps, Proofs, Postmarks &
Postal History available at

www.latinamericanphilatelics.com

www.michaelkay.co.uk

Now Available – Order Today!
Lighthouse 2021 Supplements
SG Great Britain Concise 2022
01869-321676

APPROVALS

101 FREE STAMPS

When requesting Commonwealth
or Foreign stamps on approval.
Realistically priced with generous
discounts of up to 20%

MIKE WALKER

10 Weston Grove, Immingham, DN20 2DE
Tel 01469 574144

CLASSIFIEDS RATES

Number of issues

1	4	6	12
---	---	---	----

2.5cm X 1 column

£34	£32	£29	£27
-----	-----	-----	-----

5cm X 1 column

£68	£64	£58	£54
-----	-----	-----	-----

APPROVALS

QUALITY APPROVALS

tailored to your requirements

World, Commonwealth,
Thematics, Specific Countries etc.

NEWTOWN STAMPS

PO Box 14, Livingston, W. Lothian
EH54 8HS

(Members ADPS & SPTA)

WORLD APPROVALS

Good quality stamps, postage paid, 25% discount
on orders of £1 or over. Parent's permission if
under 18 please. Write now to:

KB STAMPS

4 Pound Road, Highworth
Swindon, Wilts, SN6 7LA

GB AND COMMONWEALTH APPROVALS

**GVI TO 2016 FINE USED STAMPS
AT 75% OR MORE
DISCOUNT ON SG CATALOGUE
PRICES, WANTS LISTS
WELCOMED. POSTAGE PAID
BOTH WAYS.**

E PICKUP,

**8 FAIRDOWN AVE,
WESTBURY, WILTSHIRE,
BA13 3HS**

**TEL: 01373 865474,
EANDVPICKUP@HOTMAIL.COM**

BRITISH COMMONWEALTH

CAMPBELL PATERSON'S "NEW ZEALAND"

THE WORLD'S LEADING SPECIALISED
COLOUR CATALOGUE
£140 (post-paid)

Only From

CAMPBELL PATERSON PO Box 99988, Newmarket, Auckland 1149, NZ
www.campbellpaterson.co.nz Email: service@campbellpaterson.co.nz

WEB LISTING RATES

number of Issues	6 (minimum)	12
3cm X 1 column	£22	£20
6cm X 1 column	£40	£35

CLASSIFIED GUIDE TO THE SPECIALISTS

BRITISH COMMONWEALTH

Commonwealth

BASIC MINT AND USED AT A MAXIMUM OF HALF SG CATALOGUE

Our price guarantee – has been for the last 35 years!

REGULAR LISTS

Retail Shop open every Friday



B & S STAMPS

RUSHCLIFFE HOUSE, 17-19 RECTORY ROAD WEST BRIDGFORD, NOTTINGHAM. NG2 6BE

Tel: 0115 981 6214 alan@robinhood-stamp.co.uk

FREE LISTS

USED STAMPS ONLY
1937 - 2011

From the following Countries.
Australia, Botswana, Malawi, Malta, Mauritius, Papua
New Guinea, New Zealand & Zambia

GERRY FISHER

14 KELSTON GROVE, HANHAM, BRISTOL, BS15 9NL
Email: g.fisher243@btinternet.com TEL: 0117 967 1563

Free 200 stamps

on requesting my GB & C/wealth
approvals. Suit beginner and
medium collector. Personal service with
gifts and discounts available. Postal only.
Robert Laidler 38-Haybrown Cres
Scalby Scarborough YO13 0SG

Tel 01723 378455

SUN STAMP CO.

KG VI Collectors List 1 Indian Feudatory
States. List 2 Convention to Cover all Stanley
Gibbons Printed Albums List 3 earlier or other
issues of the Indian States

!!would help Imperial Collectors!!

Court Fees, Revenues, Postal History

or you may send a wants list for a firm quote!
Visit my store at www.ebay.co.uk/str/sunstampco

PO Box 1096. Sunderland. SR3 1WZ

Tel: 01915 235 811 Mob: 07764 830 136

Email: bill@sunstamps.co.uk

AUSTRALIA (inc. States) CANADA • NEW ZEALAND

Inc Specialised, Covers, etc ...
Monthly lists available FREE

Ian Perry, 29 Chetwynd Grove, Newport,
Shropshire TF10 7JW

01952 825941 ianperrystamps@aol.com



TO ADVERTISE

jay.jones@mytimemedia.com

FOREIGN

FRANCE 1849-2021

Full detailed stock list on request
Yvert France Catalogue 2021 - £25.00 post paid

CHARLES BLOMEFIELD

Chipping Campden, Glos, GL55 6PP
Tel: 01386 841923 Email: blomefield@aol.com
www.charlesblomefield.com

Federal USA State

DUCK HUNTING STAMPS

for details and price list, contact

John Wells

P.O. Box 222, Waltham Cross, Herts EN8 8GS

Tel: 01992 628976

E. mail: john.wells123@btinternet.com

★ USA SPECIALIST ★

Established since 1980, suppliers of fine used
USA – Commemoratives, Definitives, Airm, Dues – sets
and singles at reasonable prices. List for 65p stamp.

R. EVERETT

2 COLDNAILHURST AVENUE, BRAINTREE, ESSEX CM7 2SJ
POSTAL ONLY UDPA 502

FRANCE

Quality material at competitive prices.
Free stock list available on request.
Wants lists also invited.

KEVIN P. RIGLER

44 Shrewsbury Fields
Shifnal, Shropshire TF11 8AN
Tel: 01952 460862

A N D O R R A COMPREHENSIVE PRICE LISTS NOW AVAILABLE W. A. JACQUES ASHVILLE, CLIFFE, SELBY, N. YORKSHIRE, YO8 6NU Tel: 01757 638226 <http://apsc.free.fr/jacques> E-mail: alecjacques@tiscali.co.uk

NEW THIS MONTH - PRICE LISTS

AUSTRALIA USED 1913 - 2009
FAEROE ISLANDS MINT AND USED 1860 - 1985

Recent lists available

ADEN	W. GERMANY
AUSTRALIA	GREAT BRITAIN
AUSTRIA	GREENLAND
BELGIUM	MAURITIUS
CANADA	NETHERLANDS
CEYLON	NEW ZEALAND
DENMARK	NORWAY
FAEROE ISLANDS	N. RHODESIA
FINLAND	PAKISTAN
FRANCE	SWEDEN
IRELAND	SWITZERLAND
GERMANY	USA

Write to:

THE TAUNTON STAMP SHOP
66 BRIDGE STREET, TAUNTON, SOMERSET, ENGLAND TA1 1UD
Tel: (01823) 283327 Fax: (01823) 325882

GREAT BRITAIN

GREAT BRITAIN FIRST DAY COVERS

Free Price List of First Day Covers
and Commemorative Covers

STEVEN RILEY

37 BADGER GATE, THRESHFIELD,
SKIPTON BD23 5EN

Email: stevenrileycovers@btinternet.com

GREAT BRITAIN 1840-2000

Our latest catalogue covers all periods of G.B.
from Penny Blacks to modern Machines

Included are Booklets, Booklets Panes,
First Day Covers, and a wide range of Definitives
and Commemorative stamps in unmounted and
fine condition. For a friendly personal service.
Why not request a copy today or send a list of
your requirements. Whether buying or selling we
look forward to receiving your enquiries.

PHILANGLIA

2nd July 15th-16th July
Burgess hall, Westwood rd. The Grandstand, York Racecourse
St. Ives, Cambs PE27 6WU York YO23 1EX
10am-3.30pm Fri 10am-5pm, Sat 10am-3.30pm

ARUN STAMPS

P.O. Box 15, Fakenham, Norfolk, NR21 0EU
Telephone: (01328) 829318
Email: arunstampsbox15@gmail.com
www.arunstamps.co.uk

BUYING OR SELLING GREAT BRITAIN



Our new RushExpress No. 77A –
something for everyone is now available
can be viewed/downloaded from our website

JUST COMPARE OUR PRICES AND SAVE!!

Prompt Delivery. All Credit Cards Accepted.
We are liquidating our A-Z Worldwide Stocks – Big Discounts.
Ask for our World RushTelegraph No.70 (with big discount)

RUSHSTAMPS (RETAIL) LTD.

P.O. Box 1, Lyndhurst, Hampshire, England SO43 7PP
Tel: +44 (023) 8028 2044
Fax: +44 (023) 8028 2981
Website: www.rushstamps.co.uk
Email: enquiries@rushstamps.co.uk



K&C Philatelics

THE QV GB SPECIALISTS
QUEEN VICTORIA STAMPS,
COVERS, PRE-STAMP and
SCOTTISH, IRISH, WELSH
POSTAL HISTORY

Tel/Ans: 01245 223120
Email: kcphil@usa.net

Do visit our expanded website: new items
added regularly to each section

www.kcphilatelics.co.uk

www.stampmagazine.co.uk

GREAT BRITAIN

DO YOU COLLECT BRITISH STAMPS?

We offer Great Britain stamps from Queen Victoria through to 2018 mint and used. We can send you approvals please let us know your interests. Or you can send us your wants lists by post or email. You will be impressed by our competitively priced stamps. Discounts available including 20% on first selection.

Robert Williams
1 Butt Hill Drive, Prestwich, Manchester M25 9PL
Tel: 0161 798 4734 riw@isaglo.com

INSURANCE

INSURE YOUR COLLECTION ALL RISKS - NO EXCESS REPLACEMENT VALUE

Stamps, Postcards, Coins, Diecast models,
Dolls Houses Model Railways etc.

STAMP INSURANCE SERVICES

C G I Services Limited
29 Bowhay Lane, Exeter, EX4 1PE
Tel: 01392 433 949
mail @stampinsurance.co.uk
*Authorised & Regulated by the
Financial Conduct Authority*

IRELAND

WE BUY IRELAND

Generous prices paid for postal history, GB used in Ireland, high value overprints, errors, booklets, coils, covers (except post 1960 FDC), revenues, or any specialist or rare items of Ireland. **Good collections always of interest.**

Write or telephone:

MacDONNELL WHYTE LTD
102 Leinster Road, Dublin 6, Ireland.
Telephone: (+353-1)4977449
Fax: (+353-1) 4977440
Members: PTS, BDF, ASDA, APHV, IPTA

stampmagazine.co.uk

POSTAL AUCTION

L&R Postal Auctions

Regular Commonwealth and Foreign postal auctions with no buyers' premium and wide selection of quality material. Contact us for free catalogue.

L & R Stamps

12 Townsend Close, Wyton,
Huntingdon, PE28 2AR
01480 464552
Email: info@lrstamps.co.uk



Postal Auction

With Free Catalogues

No Buyers Premium Low Commission Rates
Good Material Always Wanted

R.A.J Philatelics 35 Castlecombe Drive Wimbledon
London SW19 6RN www.raj-stamps.co.uk

STAMP AUCTIONS

SELLING?

We guarantee to make an offer on all material sent to us.

Should our offer be unacceptable, then we can discuss placing it in one of our monthly public auctions, or by selling by Private Treaty. If we are still unable to be of service to you, then our only charge will be the return postage. *Please send to:*

CAMBRIDGESHIRE PHILATELIC AUCTIONS
27 Fore Hill, Ely, Cambridgeshire. Tel: 01353 663919
www.cpa-ely.co.uk

STAMP POSTAL AUCTIONS

held every few months with good selection of GB, Commonwealth and World, also Cigarette Cards. Suit both collectors and dealers. Keen estimates and no buyer premiums. Free catalogue from:

**G, Sharples, 5, The Knowle
Bispham, Blackpool FY2 0RY**
Tel: 01253 356267
email: sharples601@yahoo.co.uk
You won't regret it!

ABC STAMP AUCTIONS

Australia, British and Commonwealth
Free Public and Postal Auctions. Free monthly catalogue
E-mail: ianperrystamps@aol.com
ABC Stamp Auctions
29 Chetwynd Grove, Newport, Shropshire TF0 7JW
01952 825941

SWITZERLAND

SWITZERLAND

All Issues 1850 to 2021
Free 48-page price list

Also large stocks of covers, cards, postal history, soldier stamps etc.

Werner Gattiker

7 Friars Oak Rd., Hassocks, BN6 8PT
01273 845 501
werner@swisstamps.co.uk

CLASSIFIEDS RATES

No. of issues	1	4	6	12
2.5cm X				
1 column	£34	£32	£29	£27
5cm X				
1 column	£68	£64	£58	£54

WEB LISTING RATES

No. of issues	6(minimum)	12
3cm X 1 column	£22	£20
6cm X 1 column	£40	£35

FOR SALE Great Britain 1,000 off paper unsorted £1. 500, World £1. 400. British Commonwealth £1. Includes P&P. Mike Amos, 85 Higher Audley Avenue, Torquay TQ2 7PG. L920P

TO ADVERTISE HERE EMAIL

jay.jones@mytimemedia.com

TO ADVERTISE

jay.jones@mytimemedia.com

www.stampmagazine.co.uk

Missed an issue?

If you've missed an issue of Stamp Magazine, you can order it online, subject to availability

**JUST
£4.99**
plus p&p



ALSO AVAILABLE

- Stamp Magazine branded binders
- British Stamp Market Values
- dozens of other hobby magazines

Order online: www.mags-uk.com

Order by telephone: 01795 662976

Chronological disorder

Franklin D Roosevelt's concept of matching US Presidents with suitable denominations in the 1938 definitive series wasn't quite as simple as it sounded

■ Report by John Winchester

When a philatelist, Franklin D Roosevelt, took office as President of the United States, he became a force in stamp issuing policy. Amongst his many suggestions was a new definitive series honouring previous Presidents.

With a need for uniformity in the series, a design competition was launched, and the winner was Elaine Rawlinson, whose simple and dignified portrait style made her the first woman to design US stamps.

Launched in 1938, the Presidential series (or the 'Prexies', as they are affectionately known) would prove to be a popular idea, but it didn't quite go according to Roosevelt's plan.

Protocol excluded living subjects from appearing on stamps, so Herbert Hoover and FDR himself would not feature. That left a total number of 29 subjects. Roosevelt requested that they should be featured in the order in which they served, in ascending order of value, with George Washington appearing on the 1c, John Adams on the 2c, and so on.



ABOVE: USA 1938 Presidential series 1½c portraying Benjamin Franklin, an interloper in the set

How well would that work? That turned out to be the five-dollar question!

It all ran smoothly up to Grover Cleveland, who was the 22nd President but also the 24th, having served two terms. It was decided not to issue a 23c stamp, leaving President Harrison, the 23rd President, out of step on the 24c.

The original principle never seemed to recover from this, and the final five subjects appeared not on values from 25c to 29c but on make-up high values of 30c, 50c, \$1, £2 and \$5.

An even greater problem was the need for ½c, 1½c and 4½c denominations, to meet those most inconvenient of necessities, actual postal rates. The inelegant solution was to permit 'guest' appearances, by Benjamin Franklin, Martha Washington and The White House, respectively!

One unfortunate result is that the illustration in the Stanley Gibbons worldwide catalogue representing the Presidential series is not that of a President at all. ■

NEXT MONTH

Hindenburg heads



Germany's inter-war stamp issues portraying President Hindenburg, and their use on commercial cover

PLUS

■ Sending mail from Earth's highest post office to one that's in orbit

■ Great Britain's 1958 Commonwealth Games commemorative set

■ Stop-gap overprints of British Somaliland

AUGUST ISSUE

IN SHOPS FROM
THURSDAY JULY 14

Philatelic Feelings ...

Sometimes Collectors get a raw deal, don't they?

For example, whilst on holiday, I remember my wife (a keen plant collector), once spent an extraordinary amount in the sum of £200 for some plants. She paid the bill and was just about to leave when she spotted the company's catalogue (price/stock list) which she hadn't seen. Being 200 miles away from home she asked if she might have one so that she could use their mail-order next time? Incredibly she was told the price of the company's pricelist was £5.

Naturally, she didn't buy one, nor did she ever do business with that company again – ALL for the sake of just £5 – that company lost the goodwill of a client who spent £200 on just one first visit ...

Similarly, some stamp companies are extraordinarily mean. Sometimes auction catalogues are not supplied free, or buyer's premiums run at 20%+ levels even upon company's own stock, postage, packing and insurance may be added, scans/ photocopies cost, moreover ... not all auctions guarantee their lots – which is hard to understand when these days, so few collectors physically attend auctions in person.

At UPA, collectors really are **Very Important Philatelists** – that's right UPA **VIP's**, and you don't have to spend £200= to be charged £5 extra, or for that matter £40 extra buyer's premium. Indeed 'Buyer's Premium' sounds pretty special doesn't it, until you realise that it is you that is paying the premium, and what is it for?

Moreover, you don't have to spend or win £200 worth to be charged £5, or even charged £40 more on your 1st visit ... at UPA, you will be joining more than 3,000 different collectors (and some dealers), who have spent £75+ and have been refunded back their 1st £55 FREE, so that they can test my company UPA, virtually for free, with no added buyer's premiums to pay, no extra charges for shipping and insurance, wherever you are in the world (light lots delivered UPA Loyalty Post-Free, naturally) ...

Finally, your 20,000+ lot quarterly UPA auction catalogue is also FREE. That's 5,000 colour-corrected images and a catalogue that costs £60,000 just to print and post each auction. What is the secret formula that makes all this possible? The answer is **SCALE**. More collectors bid in UPA auctions than any other auction in the UK (or most of the rest of the world, for that matter) ... so, go on ... it won't cost you even ONE penny, plus

It's so easy to collect Your Free Catalogue + 1st £55 FREE offer – **NOW! – simply GO to:**

upastampauctions.co.uk

or (UK collectors) telephone: 01451 861111

UPA
VIP | **Putting Collectors Like You First**

SM 07/22

ADVERTISERS' INDEX

ANDREW G LAJER.....12	M.L.CLIFFORD32
AJH STAMPS.....43	MICHAEL G. READ44
AVA AUCTIONS.....3	MILLSTAMPS62
BAINBRIDGES11	NORTH STAFFS STAMPS67
CDD.....56	PHILANGLIA56
CHRISTOPH GARTNER.....IFC	PHILATELINK.....48
CORINPHILA.....6, 7	PURVES PHILATELICS.....16,17
COURT PHILATELICS46	ROBSTINE.....49
GARY J LYON12	ROWLAND HILL.....46
GERT MULLER25	SOUTH -WEST
H.W.WOOD.....44	PHILATELIC AUCTIONS 69
IAN OLIVER56	STAMPEX.....48
IAN LASOK-SMITH57	STEPHEN T. TAYLOR32
JERSEY POST OFFICE34	TONY LESTER37
JERWOOD PHILATELICS24	UPA 13, 18-19, 45, 61
JOHN BAREFOOT55 82, IBC, OBC
JOHN CURTIN36	WARWICK and WARWICK31
JOHN LAMONBY73	YORK STAMP & COIN FAIR.....24
JOHN WELLS32	ZEBOOSE.....36
LATIN AMERICAN PHILATELICS.....46	

from / respond to: **Andrew McGavin**

Are You **THINKING** of **SELLING?**

This is How The Stamp Trade Works

Philatelic Expert Lets You into his Selling Secrets so you can benefit from a totally different (and New) Selling Experience

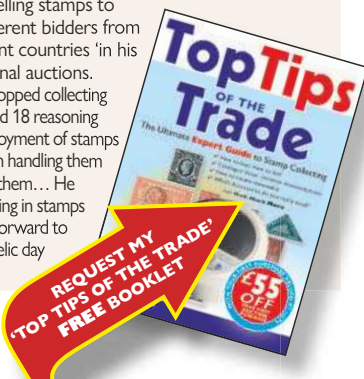
1▶ If You want to learn how the stamp trade works, please read on... When I was 15, I did. I wondered if there was some secret source of supply? So, I bought my 1st stamp mixture, (wholesale I thought), broke it into 50 smaller units, advertised it in Stamp Magazine 'Classifieds', and waited for the orders to roll in... I'm still waiting, 51 years later !...

Wrong Offer ✗ **Wrong Price** ✗ **Wrong Place** ✗
(naïve seller) ✓ = ☹️ me but I was only 15 at the time!



ANDREW PROMOTING PHILATELY ON THE ALAN TITCHMARSH SHOW ITV

About The Author ▶ Andrew found his Father's stamps at the age of 10. A year later at Senior School he immediately joined the School Stamp Club. He 'specialised' (!) in British, but soon was interested in Queen Victoria which he could not afford. The 2nd to last boy wearing short trousers in his school year, he religiously bought Post Office New Issues on Tuesdays with his pocket money. He soon found that he enjoyed swapping / trading stamps as much as collecting them. Aged 19, eschewing University he quickly found a philatelic career in London, leading to creating his own companies in stamps. Andrew has authored many internationally published Stamp 'Tips' articles, appearing on Local Radio and National TV promoting Philately with Alan Titchmarsh. Andrew's area of expertise is unusual – in so far as his grounding in collecting and wide philatelic knowledge has given him a deep understanding of Philately. He has studied Philately for the past 51 years, in combination with Commerce and Marketing Expertise, enabling him to create synergies in 'lifetime' interlinked Stamp Selling Systems, selling unit-priced stamps through to handling collections & Rarities up to £700,000 each. Today Andrew is fortunate to be co-owner with his Wife, of Universal Philatelic Auctions (aka UPA) – the Largest No Buyer's Premium Reducing-Estimate System Stamp Auction in the World, creating records selling stamps to 2,261 different bidders from 54 different countries 'in his international auctions. Andrew stopped collecting stamps aged 18 reasoning that his enjoyment of stamps would be in handling them and selling them... He loves working in stamps and looks forward to each philatelic day



2▶ Three years later, attending my first public stamp auctions I wondered how some bidders seemed to buy everything, paying the highest price? It didn't occur to me that they were probably Auction Bidding Agents, paid by absent (dealer) bidders to represent them. I wondered why two collectors sitting side by side muttered to each other "he's a dealer" as if that justified him paying the highest price...

...but did it really? What was the real reason? How could a Dealer pay a higher price than a Collector? It doesn't make sense, does it? Collectors are customers. Customers usually pay the highest price, unless... for a Collector, this was...

Wrong Presentation ✗ **Wrong Place** ✗
therefore **Wrong Price** ✗

3▶ Fast-forward 48 years later to a British Empire collection, lot #1 in an International Stamp Auction – Estimated at £3,000, but we were the highest bidder at £21,000 – **YES** – some 7x higher. Including Buyer's Premium in the extraordinary sum of £4,788 we actually paid GBP£25,788= upon a £3,000 estimate... **however,** we broke it down into sets, singles, mini-collections etc. We made a profit. Some might say it found its price. Others may say:

Wrong Estimate ✗ **Wrong Presentation** ✗
Wrong Structure ✗ **Wrong Protection of Price** ✗

– **Lucky for the seller that 2 well-heeled bidders saw the potential value that day** or it could have been given away... the seller could easily have lost out couldn't he? or she?

So, by un-peeling the layers of obfuscation, hopefully we can all agree:

The Secret is Simple – it's ALL ABOUT : TIMING

Plus the 3 Philatelic 'P's –

Presentation ✓ **Place** ✓ and **Price** ✓

4▶ Understanding the problem... I always remember the car trade had their own little 'bible' – *Glass's Guide*. I've no idea, I've not even looked – in this internet-dominated world, it may even have disappeared. Well, there was an insider Stamp Trade publication for Stamp Dealers called "The Stamp Wholesaler". There was nothing that special about it – and you would not have learnt much or found massively reduced prices by subscribing then – BUT – it was a forum, a paper focal point, a last 'bastion' in this on-line transparent world that we inhabit... whereby dealers (and auctioneers) can try and communicate with each other. I published my own articles there...

More recently in print, I discussed the outcome of my 10 years' simple research, asking dealers and auctioneers "what is your biggest problem?"

To a man, (why are we almost all men), they replied – "my biggest problem is stock, if I can get more of the right stock I can sell it easily"

Strange that, nobody ever asked me the same

question back – because my answer would have been entirely different (and I don't treat it as a problem) – I seek to satisfy more collector clients than any other stamp auction

This is the reason why my company has such massive advertising. This is the reason why we spend up to 8% of turnover – up to £200,000 per annum in marketing costs. (Most dealers don't even sell £200K per annum).

5▶ Why is that? Because, as the world revolved the Stamp Market, imperceptibly Changed, and incrementally – Massively

So, although few will tell you this, it's clearly evident that the problem for most Sellers of Stamps today is no longer absent stock – but absent collectors in the place they choose to sell their stamps in. Simply put, other Dealers, Auctions, Stamp Fairs have not invested in marketing to have a strong Customer-core. To be fair, this is not true of all – but it is true of most – so that a former competitor had 800 bidders in a recent auction. In my most recent 18,933 lot UPA 80th Auction we had 1,893 different bidders from 51 different countries, 95% of whom were Collectors. Some other well-advertised auctions only have 200 bidders (a high percentage of whom are dealers – so that, essentially they are Dealer-dominated auctions) – so that when you sell through them – you're paying up to 18% (including VAT) seller's commission and the buyer is paying up to 25% and more in Buyer's Premium, credit card fees, on-line bidding fee, delivery and insurance etc... **AND all of that so that your stamps may be sold, wait for it – TO DEALERS (and some collectors),** but Dealers, that naturally must make a profit to survive...

6▶ Now, let's examine the cost implications – **Example:** Your stamp collection sells in public auction for £800. Upon a 25% buyer's premium, the dealer pays £1,000 and it could be more. He breaks it into £2,000+ selling price (much lower and he'll go out of business). The auction charges you a seller's commission of up to 18% (VAT included) upon the £800 sale price. This is GBP£144. Therefore you receive approaching £656 – which is approximately 33% of the dealer's £2,000+/- retail selling price – **BUT... now that we have identified the problem...**

Isn't the Solution Staring us Right in The Face ?

7▶ Why Pay an Auction to Sell to Dealers: Sell to Collectors instead? In our example with buyer's premium, sellers commission, lotting fees, extra credit card charges, VAT and even insurance - you're already being charged in different ways up to 40% of the selling price to sell, possibly or probably, **to the wrong person.**

Why not direct that 40% cost you're paying to sell to Collectors instead? Sounds good, so why hasn't this been done before ?

8▶ Truth is, it Has been done before... Sometimes the 'old' ways are the best ways aren't they? But in today's enthusiasm to obscure the obvious so that money may be taken, almost surreptitiously, in numerous different ways, (without us apparently noticing until we see the cheque in our pocket) – the transparent 'seller pays' has been deliberately 'obscured' – so much so that, **amazingly**, the latest 2017 European Auction Selling Legislation just introduced – now requires auctions that charge 'buyer's premiums' **to warn the buyer in advance**. Just imagine going into the petrol station, and being warned that the price you're paying to put fuel in your tank is not the real price, you have to pay a premium! Obviously, there would be an uproar...

9▶ How can you cut out the middleman and sell to Collectors instead? Well, I can think of two ways. 1). **DIY** - Do It Yourself selling on eBay. That may be fine for lower grade material – but, would you risk auctioning relatively unprotected rare material on eBay? We don't and we're professionals, so we should know what we're doing. Or 2). Cut out the extra middle-man. **Use my company UPA, which reaches collectors instead.** Here's how it works: Continuing from our previous **Example**:

The auction sold your stamps to a dealer for £1,000 – but You received circa £656

UPA sells them to collectors for you for up to £2,000 – even after 40% commission you receive up to £1,200. Up to £544 more. Now that's amazing, isn't it?

10▶ Sounds Good Andrew, but Can You 'Deliver'? Obviously, nothing is as simple as that, and as we auction stamps to collectors some collections may 'break' to the example £2,000+/- but the stamps may be sold for more or less – especially as we reserve all lots at 20% below, (Estimate £2,000 = £1,600 reserve) and not everything sells first or even 2nd time so prices may come down... Naturally, it's not that straightforward for a dealer either – he may sell at a discount to 'move' stock **OR**, like many dealers he may be sitting on the same unsold stamps, that you see time and time again, in dealer's stocks years later and still at the same unattractive prices... So, I think it is more reasonable for you to expect up to 36% to 50% more, indirectly or directly via my **Collector's Secret Weapon**: Universal Philatelic Auctions, which moves material more quickly, by incrementally reducing estimate (and reserve) price in a structured selling system...

11▶ Q.) What is the Collector's 'Secret Weapon'?

A.) It's called the Unique UPA Reducing Estimate System...

This is a rather long explanation, I don't want to bore you, but 20 years ago, when my wife and I set up Universal Philatelic Auctions I detected that the stamp trade's biggest problem then was not what sold – **but what didn't sell...** So, because I didn't want to try to keep on offering the same either unsaleable or overpriced stock I created the unique UPA Reducing Estimate (and reserve) Selling System. Simply put, if a lot doesn't sell in the 1st auction we reduce the estimate (and reserve) by 11% and unlike other dealers and auctions **WE TELL YOU – 'US'** = once unsold. If unsold after the following auction we **reduce by a further 12%** and **WE TELL YOU 'US2'**, if unsold after a 3rd UPA auction we reduce by a further 13% and **WE TELL YOU 'US3'** and so on till the lot finds its price, is sold or virtually given away...

12▶ Any Scientist will tell you that combinations of ingredients can produce powerful results. So we created the unique combination of my UPA Reducing Estimate System, married (in stone), with UPA's fair 'NO BUYER'S Premium' policy, PLUS each lot carries my total 'no quibble' guarantee – this formula is the reason why within the span of 4 auctions (one year)... 90%-95% of lots broken from a collection have sold.



Contact UPA: 01451 861 111

UNSOLICITED TESTIMONIAL:

Dear Folk at UPA,

I've dealt with the public for 37 + years, and as both a consumer, and a businessman, I have created huge numbers of orders from all over the world from a complete range of suppliers from all aspects of our daily lives.

But I don't believe I have ever encountered such sensitivity, such kind thought, such understanding as I have with you in our initial meeting, our subsequent successful transaction, and now this.

I recall well the item you highlight, and realise that this one item has such colossal personal value, I could never part with it.

It has been an absolute pleasure dealing with yourself, and I am more than willing for you to use this e-mail as commendation to others who may be thinking of disposing of their collection.

Many, many thanks for a memorable experience, and I will try to emulate your thought and care in my own business sphere.

Yours sincerely
D. E. B. Bath, UK

This Unique Philatelic Selling System **Formula** is the reason why we are the largest stamp auction in the UK today with more than 2,250 different regular bidders.

In Hindsight Dealers warned me 20 years ago that my idea wouldn't work. 20 years later I think I've proven that it does. (Reader: Please Request a complimentary UPA catalogue – using the contact details further below)

13▶ OK, Cut to the Chase Andrew, what's the offer? All of my Selling Systems are based upon **selling to Collectors Globally**, so that 95% of stamps sold by UPA are sold directly to Collectors. If you wish to benefit by up to 50% or more, depending upon your circumstance and type of material, by cutting out the middleman – then this offer may be for you. Generally 'time' is the enemy in our lives, and for most dealers not being able to sell stock. Now is the time to let 'time' do the 'heavy-lifting' and consider making 'time' work for you, so that at UPA you can make time your friend.

14▶ AND the SMALL PRINT? Some lots are too small in value for us to offer this system. Other lots may not be suited to selling in this manner (e.g. surplus mint British decimal stamps best used for postage) – especially if the market is heavily compromised by stock overhang

in specific areas. Some Collectors will not wish to use time and systems to leverage price, others will want to agree a specific price and know that they are paid precisely this amount. No client is treated like a number and no client is forced like a square peg into a round hole.

15▶ OK, What Do I Do Next?

- You contact UPA to discuss with Andrew or a highly-qualified Auction Valuer/Describer what you have to dispose of and your options bearing in mind your specific interests / requirements
- If you wish, get a 2nd opinion, but investigate what type of auction / dealer you are dealing with. Is it a Dealer's auction with relatively few collectors? Can you see where / how the Dealer sells? If you can't easily see any pricelists or high quality selling catalogues – that Dealer may sell your stamps to other dealers...
- Finally you ask U P A to collect your stamps, insure in transit for an estimated replacement retail value...

16▶ What Happens then? A member of my Team telephones/e-mails you to confirm safe receipt. 'Overnight' valuations, unless simple, are rare. Valuing stamp collections that have taken tens of years to create takes time. Depending upon your priorities / timescale I, or an experienced member of my Team will contact you to discuss your requirements and the options available to you for the sale of your collection. Provided only that you feel well-informed and comfortable do we agree strategy

17▶ How Strong is the Stamp and Cover Market? Everybody knows that the strongest areas are GB and British Empire. Post-Independence / QEII material sells but if hinged at considerable discount. Mint hinged material pre 1952 is regarded as the industry 'norm' and therefore desirable – but genuine never-hinged commands a premium. Europe sells but at reduced levels, Americas is good, as generally is Asia but the 'heat' has come off China which is still good – and Russia which can still be good. East Europe is weaker. Overall, Rarities throughout can command their own price levels and real Postal History has good demand.

18▶ What Should I Do Next?

Discuss your collection with U P A. Contact Andrew or an experienced member of his Team now...



19▶ Guarantee: I want You to be absolutely Sure So If You're not sure we'll transport and return your stamps for FREE up to £200 in actual shipping cost at our expense. It sounds generous (and it is), but it's far less than the cost of driving 100+ miles each way and 3 to 6 hours in your home valuing your stamps

20▶ My Double Cast Iron Guarantee: We can do a better job valuing your stamps in our office than in your home. If you don't agree I'll pay you an extra £50 for you to pay somebody trusted to open the boxes and put your albums back, in the same place, on the shelf they came from.

21▶ Act NOW: Contact Andrew or an experienced member of his Team using the on-line selling form at our website, by fax, telephone or by mail. We'll work harder for you not to regret the decision to sell all or part of your collection...

Andrew

Andrew McGavin, Philatelic Expert,
Author, Managing Director
Universal Philatelic Auctions UPA

Request Your
Next FREE
Catalogue
NOW

SM 07/22



UNIVERSAL PHILATELIC AUCTIONS

4 The Old Coalyard, West End, Northleach, Glos. GL54 3HE UK

Tel: 01451 861111 • Fax: 01451 861297

www.upastampauctions.co.uk • info@upastampauctions.co.uk